

Trail Riders Of Today

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

July 2011

Number 187

GET READY FOR THE TROT JUDGED PLEASURE RIDE! FABULOUS NEW VENUE!

The date has been set – Saturday, September 10, 2011 (rain date September 17).

This year's Judged Pleasure Ride is being coordinated by Pat Merson, Maureen Henry, and Marilyn Miller, and hosted by Katie Tessier, at the RT & 3L Farm (4240 Jefferson Pike, Jefferson, MD 21775), a premier equine facility near Frederick, Maryland. This is a new venue for the TROT JPR, and one that promises to be memorable.

Everyone should plan to participate in this annual tradition. For those who aren't planning to ride, **please consider volunteering**. We need from 20-25 volunteers for judges and judges helpers, and to do other odd jobs. If you have never participated, please consider it this year. It is a lot of fun to watch the horses handle these obstacles – and you can even learn some pointers for your own benefit! Join in the great camaraderie



that is our JPR. Please contact Maureen Henry at maureenhenry@comcast.net.

So everyone mark your calendars! Come and ride or volunteer. And please do invite your friends. The ride is open to everyone, including non-members.



TROT Ride - Agricultural

History Farm Park - Saturday, May

21, Ride leader Deneen Martin

Deneen Martin

We had a glorious day on Saturday- 2 hours at a slow pace because of the wet conditions- and a pot luck in the sunshine! We had a few new members come and they were so excited about the Ag Park and the great footing even after the monsoons last week. Michelle Beachley and Carolyn Rhodes helped me guide 3 different groups- we had about 20 horses and riders. See photos, page 9.



TROT Charter Member Terry Ledley does it all.

- Leading TROT rides through Rocky Gorge.
- Testifying before the WSSC Commissioners.
- And (in this photo) riding with Snuffy in the TROT Ag Park ride.

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President's Message

Ron MacNab, President

Now is a great time to be a member of TROT. I am so impressed with all of the activities in which our members are engaged for the benefit of TROT.

- * Katie Tessier, Maureen Henry, and Pat Merson are making plans for the Judged Pleasure Ride coming up in August. They will need lots of volunteers to help them on ride day, so please join in.
- * Amy Kimble is organizing TROT volunteers to help with the building of the Senaca Park Trail. She is also organizing trail work days. The trails this year seem to be in particularly bad shape.
- * Debbie Poole, Barbara Sollner-Webb, Terry Ledley and Jenn Poole are doing a spectacular job of generating opposition to the WSSC trail closure. This is citizen grass roots action at its very best. Every equestrian property owner, and horse owner near the Rocky Gorge Watershed should be outraged and actively working to have the trail closure rescinded. If you think your property is located near a beautiful 3,500 acre equestrian trail system, think again.
- * Lisa Troutman, Karen Penharlow, Naomi Manders, Terry Ledley, Barbara Sollner-Webb and Deneen Martin have all been conducting trail rides.
- * On June 8, TROT held a very informative Membership Meeting at Damascus Library. The guest speaker was Kathleen Tabor, author of Maryland Equine Law. Many thanks to Priscilla and Dick Huffman, Nancy Osgood and Sim Shanks for helping to organize this

meeting. And of course special thanks to Kathleen Tabor for her excellent presentation.

- * I have been holding my open invitation weekday trail rides to some of the less familiar trails in the area. The days have been hot. Sometimes too hot. It is still wonderful to be out there. With surprises like WSSC popping up, I want to enjoy the trails while I still have access to them.
- * Pat Oliva and Nancy Harmon are mapping trails.
- * Susan Railey has been working hard on getting approval for a TROT license plate. Bev Fox worked to design the plate and provide the art work for Maryland to use in the production of the plates.
- * Nancy Osgood and Sim Shanks continue to produce a top quality newsletter month in and month out.
- * Margaret Scarff keeps the membership database up to date and communicates with our members.
- * Susan Railey handles the finances, budget and insurance and Judy Thacher is our able secretary.



Thanks so much to all of you for making this such a good organization.

TROT Ride - Rocky Gorge Watershed - Burtonsville/Laurel

Saturday, May 14 - Ride leaders: Terry Ledley, Barbara Sollner-Webb, Denis Webb

Priscilla Huffman

The weather cooperated, and the rain held off for a wonderful TROT ride Saturday, May 14 at the Rocky Gorge watershed property in West Laurel. This ride is one of the longest-standing TROT rides traditionally held each year. The 16 riders formed two groups, with Terry Ledley leading a walking group, and Barbara and Denis Webb leading a faster group. Ride participants included Russ Glass, Jeanne Pieper, Larry Pieper, Esme Bogan, Corinne Pouliquen, Ricardo Aguilar, Jeannette Hoenig, Stephanie LeDonne, Susan Railey, Barbara Boyd, Pat Oliva, Sandy Boyd, and Priscilla Huffman. Rhona Lawrence helped to greet the riders as they arrived, and organized the transport of the food.

Stunning views of the Rocky Gorge reservoir through the trees contributed to a beautiful ride. These trails are excellent for conditioning your horse, with lots of hills and water crossings. A highlight of the ride is passing the trail marker dedicated to Terry Ledley by WSSC for her efforts in preserving and creating the trails. Thanks to the gracious hospitality of Barbara and Denis Webb (who have also contributed countless hours working on these trails) riders were able to put up their horses at the Webb's barn and

pastures, and enjoy a potluck lunch before heading back to the trailers.

Several TROT members who had not ridden these trails before asked about accessibility for future rides. The Rocky Gorge watershed property is owned by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) and use of their trails is restricted to equestrians, boaters, fishermen, picnickers (and hunters, in season), each in designated areas.

There is a main orange marked trail along the reservoir, and over the years riders have created 20+ connecting trails between the main trail and an established jeep trail. Permits are required and can be purchased annually (\$60.00) or for one day (\$5.00) from the Brighton Dam park office or the WSSC headquarters at 14501 Sweitzer Lane, Laurel, MD 20707. <http://www.wsscwater.com/>. Children 16 and under and adults 65 and older can ride the WSSC trails for free.

NOTE: Effective May 15, WSSC restricted the area for equestrians to the established fire access road only, and signs have been posted on some parts of the trail system directing riders to stay on the access road. TROT has been and will continue to be actively campaigning to restore access to the original equestrian trails on the watershed which have proven their environmental sustainability over the many years they have been ridden. *Please read more about this important issue on Pages 3,5 of this newsletter.*

WSSC Trails Update

WE ARE PROUD OF TROT

Nancy Osgood

The equestrian community came together at the WSSC Commission Public Meeting on June 15, 2011, to protest the recent draconian changes in watershed equestrian trail use. These changes, which were instituted unilaterally by the WSSC General Manager, will force trail riders onto steep and eroding fire break roads, prohibit equestrian access from private properties, and reduce the months that horses can use the trails.

In case you are not familiar with the trails, just click on Google maps and search for T. Howard Duckett Watershed, Burtonsville, MD, to see the watershed areas. TROT worked with WSSC in the early 1980's to establish safe, environmentally sensitive, and sustainable equestrian trails in the watershed areas. Equestrians have been using the trails ever since, and have served as fierce protectors of these pristine watershed areas, by keeping trails clear, picking up trash, searching out polluters, and being the "eyes and ears" of the WSSC.

More than 30 TROT members and other equestrians turned out at the WSSC meeting to speak out against these changes, and more importantly, to offer to work with WSSC to find solutions to the problems that WSSC is trying to address. Staff from the offices of Maryland State Senators **Montgomery (District 14)** and **Manno (District 19)** also spoke up in support of the equestrians. Delegates **Pena-Melnyk (District 21)** and **Hucker (District 20)** made phone calls to WSSC in support of equestrians. Ross Peddicord, Director of the Maryland Horse Industry Board, spoke saying Board members had voted unanimously to

support the trail riders, and he has also contacted Governor O'Malley's office to raise this matter. TROT President Ron MacNab spoke out plainly and emphatically about these changes. His testimony (see page 5) struck a nerve by showing how this unilateral action had jeopardized WSSC's commitment to proactively work with their stakeholders. Debbie Poole described how her family had been riding the same trails for generations, and had even sold part of their family farm to WSSC for the watershed area. Barbara Sollner-Web brought two large poster boards filled with photographs of the equestrian trails, and the eroded areas of the fire break roads. Two founding members of TROT spoke - Pat Oliva and Terry Ledley. Other TROT members added compelling and well-reasoned testimony about what the trails mean to them, and how trail riders have assisted in preserving the watershed areas.

So what was the outcome? The WSSC General Manager has committed to meeting and working with representatives of the equestrian community to address the issues that resulted in these regulatory changes. So, the story is not over, but it seemed to me that the Commissioners were very attentive and receptive to working with us. The surprise ending of the meeting was when several of the Commissioners professed to being horse enthusiasts (and one even told of getting up at 5:45 am every day to feed his two Arabian horses!).

I must say that all during the meeting, as I was looking around at the audience, I realized how important our organization is. TROT was instrumental in rallying a large group of people to protest these incremental changes that could have forever jeopardized riding opportunities in this area, changes that could have put so many horse facilities out of business. You should all be as proud of TROT as I am right now.

County Updates

Need volunteers

as contacts or coordinators for **Baltimore, Calvert, and Talbot Counties**. If you have an interest to act in this capacity, please contact Ron MacNab, TROT President, rmacnab@comcast.net or call (301) 622-4157

Howard County

Pat Oliva

We had our first trail clearing at Western Regional Park a couple of weeks ago. See the photo of my enthusiastic crew. We did a lot of pruning, chopping, and sawing, but we are waiting for the stream crossing location to be identified. I am not yet sure when we will have the grand opening. I just learned that there are trails in Friendship Park and I am waiting for the grand tour. I can always find something new, but this is in my backyard! Keep me posted about good riding trails in the county and don't any of you assume I know of every trail! I always need to be updated, and I can pass the information on. Benson Branch appears to be on hold, but we are not sure why.



3/4 quarters of the clearing crew. The photographer is not shown

TROT HOLDS INFORMATIVE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Nancy Osgood

TROT President Ron MacNab officiated at our June 8 membership meeting. Ron gave us an update on the WSSC trails issues and the upcoming TROT Judged Pleasure Ride. See details in this Newsletter.

Ron introduced the featured speaker, Kathleen J. P. Tabor, Esq. Kathleen gave a very informative and detailed presentation regarding Maryland equine law. Kathleen has been involved with horses from early childhood, and her life travels through equine endeavors, law school, and the practice of equine law was very interesting. Kathleen highlighted the following in her informative talk:



Everything in writing! This is her mantra to avoid financial and personal losses (including friendships!) in the horse world. Of course we are all familiar with the liability waivers that we sign when we board or take lessons, but Kathleen discussed in detail other situations where a signed agreement, or contract, is beneficial. These include selling, buying and leasing horses, training horses, leasing facilities, consignment arrangements, breeding, and even just transporting someone else's horse.

Agreements and Differences. Kathleen made the point that even given best intentions; things happen that may affect an agreement regarding horses. For example, a personal illness, loss of a job or a spouse, injury or death of a horse may all be unexpected occurrences that may make it impossible to fulfill an agreement, even a signed contract.

Settling Differences. There are several "steps" in the settlement process. Kathleen aptly described the

emotional as well as the financial considerations that soon arise, even among good friends. Kathleen stressed using mediation to settle these differences, to avoid court and its expenses. The other processes (arbitration, collaboration, and litigation) have some serious downsides that should be recognized early on – including high costs and possibly unexpected or unfavorable outcomes.

Liability Law. Maryland does not have a specific equine liability law, which Kathleen says is a good thing. Maryland does have a Recreation Act that protects individuals, since it places responsibility on the person that has chosen to participate in an activity that has potential risk.

Maryland Livestock Lien Law. Among other things, this law protects barn owners from non-paying boarders, and allows the auction of horses to recover accrued costs.

The highlight of the evening was a book signing where Kathleen and her co-author (and sometime partner in equine litigation) Jan Berlage offered copies of their new book **Maryland Equine Law** for sale. This book is chock full of information that is applicable to anyone with any involvement with horses in the State of Maryland, and includes an appendix with sample forms for business entities, work and employment contracts, liability waivers, training and lesson agreements, and much more. You should contact Kathleen if you would like to purchase a book, at KTaborlaw@aol.com.

THANK YOU Kathleen and Jan for spending your time with us, increasing our awareness of equine law, and for giving us the opportunity to purchase a great book – hot off the press!

**T H A N K
YOU TROT
for a festive
evening as
usual – good
food, good
friends, and
plenty of
horse talk!**



Trail Maintenance at Little Bennett, May 12, 2011

Maureen Henry

I have sent along two pictures of Jim and Leiftra as we did trail maintenance. Take notice of how relaxed she is. She is almost falling asleep. She is such a good girl and either follows him as he trims on the ground or quietly waits for him as he uses his saw to remove small trees and overhanging branches



WSSC Commissioner's Meeting

June 15, 2011

Ron MacNab

Statement from Trail Riders of Today (TROT)

My name is Ron MacNab and I am President of Trail Riders of Today better known as TROT.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak regarding the change in equestrian policy at Rocky Gorge. My regret is that the General Manager or his staff did not meet with the public prior to making their decision to redirect the horse trails to the Access Road. This is particularly disappointing since WSSC proudly states on their website that **"Communications and Stakeholder Relationships"** is a **"Strategic Priority"** of the WSSC.

The WSSC will: **"Proactively communicate and maintain strategic partnerships and community relationships with key stakeholders and jurisdictions in support of our mission."**

Somehow this priority got lost along the way. Instead of following a strategic priority, approved by this Commission, WSSC chose to follow the letter of the law by posting a cryptic legal notice in the Real Estate section of the Montgomery and Prince Georges Gazette. This was clearly a means to avoid public input since the notice did not even contain the words trail, equestrian, Access Road, Rocky Gorge, Howard Duckett or horse. No nearby or adjoining property owners or commercial stables were contacted.

Is this the WSSC's understanding of how to maintain "proactive communications and stakeholder relationships? It is not our understanding nor I hope the understanding of this Commission.

By making a unilateral policy decision, WSSC failed to do due diligence in working with the community. The results were a poorly conceived policy that is intended to fail and result in the elimination of horseback riding in the Watershed. Had the WSSC met with property owners, commercial stables and permit holders they would have learned the following:

- Closing the trails and restricting riding to the Access Road harms equestrian property values in the vicinity of Rocky Gorge.
- There are twenty two licensed commercial boarding stables within the area whose income will be harmed.
- Limiting access points on the Access Road, prevents land owners from riding out the back fence. Access to the trails is the very reason they built their homes, fenced their fields and built their stables. Now WSSC says no without even trying to work with them.
- Most of the equestrian trail is not near the water nor causing erosion. WSSC, working with permit holders,

could reroute the parts of the trail they believe cause a problem.

- Moving horseback riding to the Access Road is a design meant to fail. The term Access Road is a misnomer. The Access Road cannot be traversed by any vehicle or animal on foot. There are several locations where it is entirely washed out with ten to fifteen foot crevices, Most of the Access Road is severely scarred by erosion with no of attempt to correct the erosion.
- The design and inadequate stewardship of the Access Road is the elephant in the room that WSSC ignores. Gullies and ruts need to be fixed, water needs to be diverted to the side of hills and not be allowed to continue running straight down the road into streams at the bottom of hills. These gullies and streams go directly to the water supply.
- Papers going back to 2002 reveal that WSSC staff have had no interest in maintaining horse trails. **"Changes to horseback riding policy on reservoir property should be directed toward the goal of eliminating or permanently restricting this activity. Because of the political sensitivity of this issue, a stage approach is advocated as described earlier in this paper."** These refer to eliminating horseback riding in stages over a three year period by making it increasingly undesirable before forbidding it entirely.
- For thirty years General Managers have permitted horseback riding on the trails in Rocky Gorge. Since 2002, when staff decided to eliminate horseback riding, the proposal has been rejected for lack of merit by every General Manager. Are we now truly to believe that former General Managers were willing to jeopardize the quality of the water supply? That notion is absurd and an insult to former General Managers and to this Commission.

Trail Riders of Today, requests that the Commission:

- Reject the WSSC intention of eliminating horseback riding in the Watershed.
- Reject the new policy as approved by the General Manager on March 9.
- Ask that WSSC staff work with the riding community to redirect portions of the trail that cause a legitimate concern.
- Repair the Access Road where it is severely eroded and contaminating of the water supply. This will require anti-erosion techniques to redirect the runoff water to the side of the road, rather than to streams and gullies at the bottom of each hill. Without addressing this issue, erosion will continue to harm the water supply.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

(WSSC continued on page 6)

(WSSC continued from page 5)

- Attachment A: Source of Strategic Priorities
<http://www.wsscwater.com/home/jsp/content/org-fact-sheet.faces>
- Attachment B: Posting in Gazette Newspaper Posted April 13 and 14 in the Montgomery and Prince Georges Gazette, page B12 under Real Estate.
- Attachment C Intent to close Rocky Gorge to horseback riding.

"Changes to horseback riding policy on reservoir property should be directed toward the goal of eliminating or permanently restricting this activity. Because of the political sensitivity of this issue, a stage approach is advocated as described earlier in this paper."

From "Options for Changes to the Patuxent Reservoirs Watershed Use"



17 May 1981

TROT's first trail opening:

WSSC

From left to right:

Unknown
Frank Farmer
Terry Ledley
Sandy Boyd
Pat Oliva

PA Rangers JPR, Corderus State Park, April 10, 2011,

These photos were contributed by Tyler Jones, a new TROT member. Tyler placed 6th in the Junior Division of the PA Rangers JPR held on April 10 – Tyler's first JPR! **Congratulations, Tyler, welcome to TROT, and THANK YOU for contributing to the TROT Newsletter!**



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 Sandy Brewer

Email sandbrewer@aol.com

Blockhouse Point (Farm Loop on Canal at Violettes Lock)

Naomi Manders e-mail: naomimanders0@gmail.com

Breezy Loop Boyds, MD an easy hour and 15 minutes.

Naomi Manders e-mail: naomimanders0@gmail.com

Cactoctin Mountain Park and Little Bennett

Marilynn Miller (301) 898-7274

EPIC Trail at Dry Seneca Creek, Poolesville

This is mostly private with a sanctioned public route - exceptionally good footing, easy trail, good for exercising in winter. THIS IS NOT THE Great Seneca Greeway Trail that goes to Patuxent! 10 miles round trip

Naomi Manders e-mail: naomimanders0@gmail.com

Gunpowder State Park at Sweet Air (Harford County)

Karen Penharlow, (410) 236-9365 or KlawPaws@aol.com

Gunpowder State Park (Harford County)

Joyce Browning (410) 557-6165/443-966-0249

Little Bennett Park

Jim and Maureen Henry (301)-371-4868.

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

Patuxent River State Park, Rachel Carson and Rock Creek Park, Laury Lobel

(301) 774-9595 or laurylobel@verizon.net

Patapsco State Park off Marriotsville Road

Elizabeth Baran

She is available during the week and weekend and would love to show other TROT members the trails.

H: (410) 442-5006 C: (410) 245-8942

Sugarloaf Mt. Vicki Bazan (301) 831-8715

Sugarloaf Mt. Janine Borofka (301) 874-0770

Union Mills/Kowomu Trail

Also Liberty Reservoir trails [off Deer Park Road] and Morgan Run Trails.

Ivy Smink (410) 875-5691 or ivyismink@qis.net

Woodstock Equestrian Park in Beallsville, MD

Karen Kraushaar (301) 208-0767 or kraushaar@verizon.net

If you would like to volunteer to show other TROT members your favorite trails contact:

Nancy Osgood at nlosgood@verizon.net

LOOKING FOR RIDING BUDDIES and NEED A RIDE/SHARE A RIDE

This section of the Newsletter is for folks who are looking for riding partners – either for meeting up on the trail or for sharing a trailer ride. Linking up with other trail riders is fun – and economical! We want to provide a forum space for people looking for a traveling partner, so please write to the TROT Newsletter at nlosgood@verizon.net.

Do you have a second horse? I'm a new member of TROT and very interested in joining in on some of the trail rides, but I'm only leasing a horse right now and he doesn't trailer very well. Also, I don't have my own trailer. So I am interested in any members who might have a second horse they'd like to get out and about on the trails. I'd be happy to share expenses, etc., and I do have my own tack. Donna Kinsella kinsgold@aol.com

Share a ride: Well behaved, easy loading 10 y/o paint gelding and his owner would love to rideshare (and pay gas) to TROT rides. Located off hwy 301 in Upper Marlboro. Call or text 240-547-8618 or email ellen.lichtenstein@gmail.com. Also welcome visitors to my trail-accessible farm for weekend rides. 5/11

Looking for a horse to go on TROT rides. I would like to ride your horse (if you have an extra one) on a TROT trail ride. I rode for 20 years, but have not recently. I am in the Ellicott City/Catonsville area. I would be happy to share

all expenses. Contact: Susan Doukas (410) 461-6872. email: sdoukashorse@yahoo.com 5/11

Share a ride: I have my horses stabled at Belle Cote Farm in Burtonsville, MD. I would love to go on a trail ride with the group, but do not have a trailer. My horse is 15.1 and stocky Haflinger/Paint. She is 14 and rides well. If you are looking for someone to share the ride and help pay expenses, I'd love to talk to you. It is best to get me by email at marydorr5@clear.net 7/11

Riding Buddy - My name is Tiina Frost and I live just outside New Windsor, in Carroll County and about 15-minutes from Morgan Run. I would be willing to ride with anyone wanting to go to Morgan Run, during the week. Also, even though the Gettysburg battlefield is in Pennsylvania, I lived on the battlefield for 8 years when my husband worked for the Park there, so I know the riding trails well... If anyone really needs a Civil War fix. LOL. Contact me at bt1983@wildblue.net. 7/11

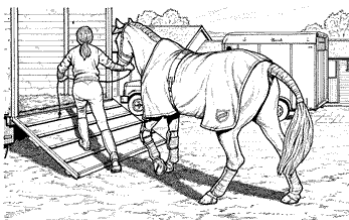
UPCOMING RIDES

Lisa Troutman , Trail Ride Coordinator
cat.home@verizon.net

Contact the ride leader to reserve a space on the ride and for information about start time and directions.

All ride participants must:

- wear hard hats,
- be TROT members (membership forms will be available at the ride for non-members).
- provide a copy of a current negative coggins for each horse.



- if needed, bring a snack for get together after the ride. **Contact ride leader for details.**

For any additional questions about TROT rides, please contact Lisa Troutman. Most leaders volunteer year after year because they have so much fun! It's a great

opportunity to meet other TROT members and maybe find a new trail buddy.

WANTED: suggestions of other places to ride and volunteers to be ride leaders. Please contact Lisa Troutman (see above).

More rides are to be added. Check the TROT web page, -<http://www.trot-md.org/> for updates

July

Liberty Reservoir – Saturday July 9th,

Ride leader Mary Prowell

This ride will be a combination of a dirt fire road that goes around Liberty Reservoir and some woods trails that connect to it. The footing is mostly good although there are some rocks on the fire road and part of the woods trail is not well used. There will be a break for lunch or snacks around noon. The pace will be walking and trotting with a possible canter depending on the size and abilities of the group. The Reservoir is a pretty place to ride with views of the water and through a mostly deciduous forest. There can be hikers, bike riders and sometimes motor bikes on the fire road so horses should be able to deal with those things. Plan to be out for 2 ½ to 3 hours. In the saddle at 10 AM. Location/parking: Park on Deer Park Rd.

Contact Mary Prowell at 301-829-7709 or email boprow@aol.com

August

Rockburn Regional Park into Patapsco Valley State

Park - Sun. August 7 with rain date Sunday August 7-

Ride leader Jacquie Cowan

We will park and ride from Howard County's Rockburn Regional Park into Patapsco Valley State Park. Easy parking. Hilly trails through the woods – plenty of shade, water crossings, and typically no bugs. Shoes or boots recommended as there are some rocky areas. Expect mountain bikers with whom we have a good trail sharing relationship. Pace will be walk-trot-gait ride lasting 3-4 hours. Ready to ride 9:30am. Lunch at trailers after. RSVP 410-923-6157

Directions from Rt 100: exit 4 onto Meadowridge Rd north toward Ellicott City. Turn right at first light onto Montgomery Rd. Left at next light following Montgomery Rd. 1 mile left into Rockburn Park at Rockburn Elementary School. Left into 1st parking lot and park in the grassy area at the top and left. Do not forget clean up tools and water for you and horse. 410-215-4979 day of ride

Patuxent River State Park (Georgia Avenue) - Saturday, August 20 Ride leader Lisa Troutman

The pace will be mostly walk, trot, with some canter. This will be a scenic ride along the edge of cropland and in the forest. There will be river crossings and hills. This park is fairly rocky so horses may need shoes or boots. Bring water for your horse as there is no water at the trailer parking area. Please bring a lunch and chair for afterward. In the saddle at 10 AM, Location/parking: Parking lot on Rt. 97 N (Georgia Avenue). Parking is limited to less than 10 trailers.,

Contact: Lisa Troutman at: 410-489-5101 or email cat.home@verizon.net

RT & 3L Farm - Saturday August 27th.

Ride Leader Katie Tessier

A family owned farm. Nestled inside the small town of Jefferson MD. Enjoy the hillside views that this farm has to offer. This will be a 1 1/2 to 2 hr trail ride. A walk some trot. Open fields, some steep hills, some rocky paths. We shall follow like elephants! This is a new farm for a group trail ride. We will keep this a small group for this year a max of 12 mounts. Trailer parking will be in a field. Water for horses can be provided. Drinks will also be provided. Bring chairs and lunch for after the ride.

11am Ride time. Not to arrive before 10 am
4240 Jefferson Pike, Jefferson MD 21755 RT & 3L Farm Katie Tessier 240-876-6523

September

TROT Judged Pleasure Ride - Sat. September 10. (Rain date Sat. September 17.)

Ride Manager Maureen Henry:

Location: RT & 3L Farm, 4240 Jefferson Pike, Jefferson, MD

Open to the public

Information and entry form on the TROT website: <http://www.trot-md.org/> and the TROT July

(Upcoming Rides continued on page 9)

(Upcoming Rides continued from page 8)

Newsletter or contact Maureen Henry at
maureenhenry@comcast.net

LOMH Horse Club Invitational – September 30,
October 1, 2

Come camp at the League of Maryland Horseman and ride the trails at Patapsco State Park. There will be 3 different rides on Saturday with lunch on the trail; 1) slow walk ride, 2) gaited ride and 3) medium ride (walk, trot, canter). All meals provided. \$35. Call Evelyn Burkhouse, 410-398-9749, to register and for more information.

October

Upper Patuxent River State Park (Annapolis Rock Rd) -
Sunday, October 9,
Ride leader Suzanne Anderson

The trails are hilly but not too rocky. There will be river crossings and, depending on the rainfall, mud or dust. The ride will be 3.5 to 4 hour loop; 2½ to 3 hours of medium pace (walking, and trot/gait). Please bring a lunch you can pack on your saddle. I'm arranging a 'chuck' wagon with hot drinks and bottled water to meet us at a good halfway point. Bring water for your horse as there is no water at the trailer parking site. This will be a joint ride with the Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse (CPWH) club. The pace will accommodate the least experienced rider. You must be a member of TROT or CPWH to participate.

If some of the group would prefer a shorter ride, I may be able to cajole a friend into leading a 2+ hour loop, and lunch can be back at the trailers.

In the saddle at 10:00 AM, Location/Parking: Cow Pasture off Annapolis Rock Road, Contact: Suzanne

in the evenings at 301. 829.3881 or email
trailsendfarm@verizon.net

Agricultural History Farm - Saturday, October 22,
Ride leader Christiane Ritcher

Come and see the Agricultural History Park in the fall. It is a beautiful place to ride with its mowed grassy paths and forest trails. There will be creeks, woods, open fields and bridges. We will have both slow and faster paced groups. There are streams in the park for your horse to drink from but no water at the parking lot so plan accordingly. Your horse will not need shoes or boots. Bring your sandwich and chair. There will be sodas and water.

In the saddle at 10 AM, Location/parking: Agricultural History Farm, 18400 Muncaster Road, Derwood MD. Drive to the end of the long asphalt driveway where it dead ends at the parking lots around the Cooperative Extension building. Turn left onto the gravel road and park in the grassy area by the asphalt parking lot.

Contact: Chris at 240-393-1217 or email
lapado2000@gmail.com

November

Anacostia Park - November TBD

Ride leader John Angevine

This is a favorite TROT ride that closes out our ride season. Folks who have attended this ride say they are amazed with the spacious trails and beautiful scenes along the Anacostia River so close to downtown DC. The ride may encounter bikes, fishermen, some asphalt, as well as a scenic view of the historic Lincoln Cemetery. Ride leaders will provide water and granola bars.

In the saddle at: TBD, Location/parking: TBD,
Contact :John at 301-937-0014



Life is good! **Agricultural History Farm Park** Saturday . May 21

Who's Who in TROT

<u>OFFICERS</u> <u>President</u> Ron MacNab (301) 622-4157 rmacnab@comcast.net <u>Vice President</u> Pat Talbott (301) 704-7339 tallyhotazz@aol.com	<u>Secretary</u> Judy Thacher (301) 943-5298 jathacher@yahoo.com <u>Treasurer</u> Susan Railey susanrailey@verizon.net	<u>BOARD MEMBERS</u> Beverly Fox Bevfox@embarqmail.com Vera Fontana (301) 633-8372 fontanavera@yahoo.com Susan Gray (240) 426-1655 susan@campususan.com	Priscilla Huffman priscillahuffman@verizon.net (301) 646-4422 Kyle Jossi (301) 570-3860 Laury Lobel laurylobel@verizon.net Pat Merson (301) 898-3251 lilgreyhrs@aol.com
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<u>COUNTY</u> ** = Coordinators * = Contacts <u>Anne Arundel</u> **Diane Ayers (410) 551-0832 dianeayers@verizon.net <u>Baltimore</u> No Coordinator <u>Carroll</u> **Anne Bennof (301) 829-0949 trotfour@aol.com <u>Cecil</u> **Jeanne Bond HalcyonFarm@gmail.com <u>Charles</u> **Dr. Kathy Blanche (240) 320-4385 jbservs@peoplepc.com	<u>Fredrick</u> **Pat Merson (301) 898-3251 lilgreyhrs@aol.com <u>Harford</u> **Karen Penharlow (410) 236-9365 KlawPaws@aol.com <u>Howard</u> **Pat Oliva (410) 489-7380 patolivatigger@aol.com <u>Montgomery</u> **Ron MacNab (301) 622-4157 rmacnab@comcast.net <u>Prince George's</u> **Lynn Gulley (410) 707-8094 equinedesigner@gmail.com	<u>Fairland Regional Park</u> *Mary Angevine (301) 937-0014 <u>Broad Creek Hist. District</u> *Dave Turner (301) 292-6130 <u>St. Mary's</u> **Kathy Glockner (301) 475-1941 kglockner@md.metrocast.net <u>Talbot</u> No Coordinator <u>Washington</u> **Susan Rechen (301) 298-4119 rechens@si.edu <u>Wicomico County</u> **Shawn McEntee (410) 749-2665 smc1159@verizon.net	<u>Virginia</u> <u>Front Royal</u> *Karen Young (540) 635-5136 karen@friesianfields.com <u>Upper Shenandoah Valley area</u> *Karen Young (540) 635-5136 karen@friesianfields.com

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION OPTIONS

Electronic or Hard Copy?

Nancy Osgood

TROT is dedicated to keeping its members informed and entertained by issuing this bimonthly Newsletter. We recognize that more and more information is being accessed electronically and that electronic distribution can save money for printing and postage. But we also know that many folks still prefer reading from paper copy. We would like to make sure members get the Newsletter in the format that they prefer – either email with a link to the newsletter, or hard copy in the mail.

If you would like to change your Newsletter format to electronic only, please contact Margaret Scarff, our membership chair, by sending her an email: mdanews@aol.com. Put in the Subject Line: TROT News Electronic Only, and be sure to include your full name in the body of the email (not just your email address).

TROT Ride - Woodstock Equestrian

Park, Sunday April 10, 2011, Ride leader Lisa Troutman.

Lisa Troutman

So the ride started off as tentative because we had a caveat that it would be cancelled if there was significant rain



within 48 hours. The big question became: was Friday's rain enough to count as significant? Andrea Caplan and I debated this and decided that yes, there was enough time to allow the trails to dry and then take 20+ riders on them. So by Saturday afternoon, everyone knew the ride was on.

We had 23 riders show up – in 15 trailers - which is



fantastic! Andrea and I had planned on having a walk-only ride and a walk/trot and possible canter ride. When we realized how many people were coming, we sought help for a third trail ride leader.

Jan Solovey saved the day by offering to lead a third walk/trot/tolt ride. A huge thank you to Jan!



The East side of the park was a bit muddy with some standing water on the trails unfortunately. But the West side of the park was wonderful with many places to trot or canter (if desired) for the trot and cantering groups. All 3 groups went around the beautiful stone barn and on trails that reach the furthest edges of both sides of the park.

The walking group had several experienced riders with horses that were either new to them, or completely new to the trails. The 2-hour trail ride went well for all the newbie's – only a few bucks, spooks and refusals to walk over the first bridge! After that, it was all smooth sailing. In the end, all 3 groups reassembled back at base camp and had lunch with sandwiches, chips, sodas, fruit salad, cherry pie, brownies and fine conversation to top off a pleasant if slightly soggy early spring morning ride. Another T R O T success!



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email: nlogood@verizon.net

TROT Members: Regular (100 word) ad FREE!

Non-member rates:

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

BOARDING, HORSE PROPERTY

Pony Pastures LLC, located on route 28 between Dickerson and Point Of Rocks MD - boarding, lessons, training, leasing and sales. Short ride to C&O Canal and many trails. We are a small, private A Circuit facility with olympic standard pvc jumps, Morton barn with hot and cold running water, Personalized service for you and your horse, whether you just want to trail ride or compete professionally. For more information call Morgan on (240) 344-0345, email info@ponypastures.com or visit www.ponypastures.com. Stall board offered at \$400 per month, field board at \$250 per month. See website for upcoming summer camps and clinics.

Brookeville, MD: full care field board on 95 acre farm with access to Rachel Carson, Hawlings River and Patuxent trails. Includes feeding, hay, worming, blanketing, handling for regular vet and farrier. Group turn-out, large fields, run-in sheds, safe fencing, round pen. \$225-275/mo depending on feed needs. Limited space available.

Horses for lease Several horses available for lease: 1) 15.2 H, paint geld. Uncomplicated, easy ride. Great trail horse. 2) 16.2H, grey TB mare. Well schooled, hunts, jumps, trail rides. Different lease options available. Call 301-943-9975.



Potomac Riverside Stables

Poolesville, MD (www.potomacriversidestables.com)
(301) 972-8187

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

Belle Cote Farm: Field board available for adults on a private farm in Burtonsville, MD. Lighted outdoor arena and direct access to WSSC trails. \$300/mo. Prefer retired, semi-retired, or non-showing horses. Contact Debby at Debby.Poole@Juno.com




West Laurel Stable – Horse Boarding at its best!

We are not a big, fancy, competitive show barn. We provide a friendly and relaxed environment for pleasure riding. You and your horse will feel very comfortable. Riders will enjoy the new 80 x 200 ft ring and access to miles of beautiful trails on the WSSC watershed (also known as the Rocky Gorge or Supplee trails). Your horse will enjoy the quiet landscape with rolling hills and nice pastures, and will receive excellent care by our dedicated staff. Come see our barn, conveniently located in West Laurel. Call John at 301-332-2688 to arrange a visit. \$425/per month stall board.

Horse Boarding. Small private boarding facility near Sunshine Maryland (Montgomery County). Excellent care. Direct access to Patuxent State Park and short ride to Rachel Carson Park. Field Board only---\$245 plus cost of feed, as the horses are individually fed. If interested call Marie at 301-774-4330. 5/11

HORSES - SALE, LEASE OR FREE

Belle Cote Farm: Several nice horses available for lease to adults, 21 years and older, on a private farm in Burtonsville, MD. Lighted outdoor arena and direct access to WSSC trails. \$175/mo. half lease. Different lease options are available. Contact Jennifer at bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com r2-10

I am in the Upper Marlboro/Croom area (near PG Equestrian Center). I have 2 wonderful, uncomplicated QH  & fabulous trails. I am looking for a person who would **basically like a free lease** & join me in some wonderful ride time. caauletta@aol.com 7/11

Two horses for Lease or Half-lease: (1) 17 hand Hanovarian gelding, gentle, for a somewhat experienced rider. He is ridden by my 12 and 15 year old daughters, non-spooky, very soft mouth, English or Western. (2) Dark bay Quarter horse gelding. Non-spooky - excellent for children or first time riders, soft mouth, can ride English or Western. Horses located at Kruhm Farm in Burtonsville, MD. Three different accesses to WSSC trails. For info call Carol at 240-447-5186 7/11

MISC. - TRAILERS, SADDLES, TACK, ETC.

For Sale: used RO-TO harrow. In good condition. Great for riding rings. needs teeth. \$500 or best offer. FMI, please call Margaret Scarff at 410-692-6921. 5/11

MISC. - TRAILERS, SADDLES, TACK, ETC. Continued

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Quick link to Performance Tack, LLC

www.PerformanceTack.com

For Sale: Email: kitten_val@hotmail.com for items listed.

- **Alamo Trail/Pleasure saddle** Alamo Trail saddle in excellent condition, 15", QH bars, caramel color, good for the horse with high withers. Asking \$450 (nylon cover included). Brand new, dark green Western pad, asking \$30.
- Brand new, **maroon A/P / Endurance pad**. Has fleece under and a pocket. Asking \$20.
- Brand new, **dark green Western pad**. The cover is on velcro, so can be removed for washing and put back on. Asking \$30.

3/11

For Sale: Tucker Endurance Saddle . 16.5 inch. It is too long for my short-back Arabs. Offered at \$800 firm. Very comfortable and in good condition with little mileage. Contact Pat Oliva at 410-489-7380.....7/11

For Sale: 18.5 Smith-Worthington Danzig All-Purpose/Trail brown leather saddle purchased 12/08, in very good cond., x-wide width. Perfect for a WB or draft cross. Double thick, softly cushioned padded flaps lg. knee block, a "V" billet system and plenty of dee rings front and back, \$2,200 or OBO. Very comfortable for any length of ride. Pictures available.

Pam Dellen, cell: 240-422-2357 or

home: 301-898-9245 or pdellen@comcast.net

11/10

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TROT Judged Pleasure Ride - Entry Information

Open to the Public

The Date: September 10, 2011
Rain Date September 17, 2011
The Time: Check in begins at 8:30 AM,
and closes at 11:00 AM on
trail by 12 noon
The Place: RT & 3L Farm
4240 Jefferson Pike
Jefferson, MD 21775
The Fee: \$35 per horse/rider(pre-reg)
Onsite registration \$45
The Rules: Hard Hats required and ..
Current negative Coggins
Test required. **No pets.** No
Contestant on the grounds
before 7:30 AM. Please
clean up after your horse at
the parking area.

What is a "Judged" Pleasure Ride?

Each rider may proceed at his or her own pace, however, they must be off the course by 3:30.

Along the trail are up to 22 stations, each announced by a sign with the station's number. At each station is a patient and kind volunteer who is spending his / her entire day sitting at that spot watching you ride by. (Please thank them on your way through!) Each station is designed to provide some type of trail obstacle one might conceivably encounter on a pleasure ride anywhere in Maryland.

Each judge has been instructed on some general points to look for, as well as particular actions either good or bad specific to that obstacle.

The scoring will be 0 - 5, a judge would look for the horse that willingly waits its turn at the waiting place (a paper plate sign announcing the next obstacle), proceeds through the obstacle or chore with attention to its job (ears pricked, looking where its feet are going), and whose rider is cheerful, confident, and patient with his/her mount and proceeds through the obstacle or chore with forethought and safety.

The Prizes:

Oldest rider, and Youngest rider; Champion and Reserve Champion according to highest scores, 1st – 6th place ribbons for each class (see Entry Form for Class List). Also, this will be the 8th year for the Irving Abb Memorial Trophy to the Ride's Champion.

Bring: Water for you and your horse and a picnic lunch.

Questions? Email Ride Manager Maureen Henry:
maureenhenry@comcast.net

Wet trails? Call for cancellation information
Phone **301-676-5298**

Directions to RT & 3L Farm

From Howard, Carroll, and Montgomery Counties: Rt.70 west towards Frederick/Hagerstown. Take exit 52 Rt 15 South Leesburg/340 West Virginia. Exit Mt. Zion Road and continue right from the exit ramp. At the stop sign(Jefferson Pike) turn left. Continue on Jefferson Pike approximately 4 miles. Address on right side 4240 Jefferson Pike, Jefferson, MD .
Farm name: RT & 3L Farm.

Once you have arrived, please follow the traffic volunteers for parking.

From Hagerstown: Rt. 70 east towards Frederick. Take Exit 52 Rt. 15 South Leesburg/340 West Virginia. Exit Mt. Zion Road, continue to go right from the exit ramp. At the Stop sign(Jefferson Pike) turn left. Continue on Jefferson Pike approximately 4 miles. Address on right side: 4240 Jefferson Pike, Jefferson, MD.

Farm name: RT & 3L Farm.

Once you have arrived please follow traffic volunteers for parking.

Awards and ribbons presentation at 4:00 PM.

Looking forward to seeing you there!



TROT Judged Pleasure Ride

September 10, 2011

Location: RT & 3L Farm, 4240 Jefferson Pike, Jefferson, MD

Rain date: September 17, 2011

Check-in begins at 8:30 AM

ENTRY FORM

Please send:

Entry form (1 for each horse/rider entered)
Entry fee of \$35. (Onsite registration will be \$45)
Make check payable to Trail Riders of Today
Copy of each horse's negative Coggins test required.

To: Maureen Henry
9150 Myersville Road
Myersville, MD 21773

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Rider's Age _____

Horse Breed (*Circle one of the items below*)

- A. Quarter Horse**
- B. Arabian or Half Arabian**
- C. Thoroughbred, Appaloosa or other non-gaited registered breed**
- D. Ponies of all breeds**
- F. Gaited Breed** (*Tenn. Walker, Missouri Fox Trotter, Rocky Mountain, Paso, Saddlebred, etc.*)
- F. Warmblood**
- G. Grade (no particular breed)**

Has the horse ever placed in a Judged Pleasure Ride?
(*Circle one of the items below*)

- A. Yes**
- B. No**

Please circle the class that best describes you:

- A. Junior (riders under 18)**
- B. Novice (have never placed in a Judged Pleasure Ride)**
- C. Placed in a judged trail ride event before**

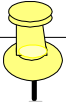
I understand that horseback riding is inherently a dangerous sport, and I agree by my signature that I will not hold Trail Riders of Today, its representatives, or RT & 3L Farm or KT Performance Horses liable for any injury or damage I or my horse or equipment may incur while participating in this competition. I also agree to abide by the rules of competition as provided by the ride management; I agree to wear a Hard Hat while mounted, as required by ride management.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Guardian of Junior Rider:

Date: _____



The Back Page

from the Newsletter Staff

IMPORTANT NEWS INSIDE!

The TROT Judged Pleasure Ride has been scheduled! Save the date September 10, 2011 (rain date September 17). The ride will be held in a beautiful new venue for TROT, the RT & 3L Farm in Jefferson, Maryland (Frederick County). Additional information in this Newsletter. The entry form is on page 15, so send it in today! (The entry form may also be found on the TROT web page <http://www.trot-md.org/>)

TROT is leading the effort to preserve the WSSC equestrian trails. Read the latest on pages 3 and 5. This is a good lesson for all of us – our trails are not “forever” unless we are vigilant in protecting them. Each of you is helping, by supporting TROT.



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY

Margaret Scarff, TROT Membership

4406 Carico Lane White Hall, MD 21161

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