**ARE YOU READY FOR THE 2010 TROT TRAIL RIDE CHALLENGE?**

TROT Trail Ride Coordinator, **Allison Abernathy**, is challenging all TROT members to participate in the 2010 organized trail rides and win awards! Read the rules below, and get ready to take up the challenge!

Special TROT Trail Ride Challenge Awards will be handed out at our 2011 Annual Potluck Dinner in the following categories:

- **Adults 18 and over**
- **Children under 18**

**Rules:** You must ride in at least three TROT-sanctioned rides listed on our website. For each category, awards will be issued based on the number of completed rides with a special award in each category to the individual with the most rides. Ride leaders get two points for the rides they lead.

**How to enter:** By December 15, 2010, send the TROT Trail Ride Coordinator an email ([abernathy.allison@epa.gov](mailto:abernathy.allison@epa.gov)) listing the TROT rides you attended. If you were a ride leader, make sure you include that information, as you get double points if you lead a ride.

**Make it an adventure!!** Try keeping a journal and/or writing an article about it for our TROT newsletter. Pictures are welcome. We would love to highlight individuals who are riding the Challenge! Consider telling us over the summer how it is going via our TROT newsletter.

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**SILENT AUCTION 2010**

*Kyle Jossi*

- 125 - The number of items donated to the Silent Auction
- 12  - The number of businesses who donated items to the Silent Auction
- 125 - The number of TROT members who attended the Annual Dinner & Silent Auction
- $1,600 – the amount of money raised at the Silent Auction

The Mt. Airy Fire Hall was packed to the rafters Saturday evening with enthusiastic TROT members. Although the bidding was fast and furious, the impact of the struggling economy was apparent when the bids were added up. Our goal was $2,000, but the finally tally for the Silent Auction was $1,600.

The success of the Annual Dinner and Silent Auction is due to the efforts of so many people. It is truly a team effort. Thank you to all of you who searched your barns and homes for items to donate. And thank you to each of you who bid on items and wrote generous checks at the end of the evening. The risk of thanking everyone who helped me is that I will forget someone, I beg your forgiveness in advance. I am so grateful to Pat Oliva, Amy Kimble, Sharon Cappeluti, Erin Reilly, Laury Lobel and Susan Railey for their help.

The amount of behind-the-scenes preparation that goes into making the Annual Dinner happen is unbelievable, and much of that amazing work is done by Janet and Ron MacNab, Nancy Osgood, and Sim Shanks. Thanks to all of you for all your hard work.

(Silent Auction continued on page 2)
The Annual Dinner held February 20, 2010, marked TROT's 30th Anniversary. The meeting was well attended and a lot of fun. Three of our founding members were in attendance, Anne Bennof, Terry Ledley and Pat Oliva. All three are still active in TROT and performed essential duties at the dinner. Pat worked setting up the dinner and Silent Auction. Anne set up and sold TROT clothing and coffee mugs. Terry, after years of organizing trail rides, enjoyed socializing with her many friends.

In preparing for the dinner, I was reviewing the past year. 2009 was a good year for TROT... wet, but good. We worked hard and I am very pleased with our accomplishments. The focus last year was to organize our internal operations and to be more active in the broader equine community. As part of our Internal improvement, we reviewed our by-laws and amended them to be consistent and to serve the operational needs of the organization. We developed a budget and lived by it. We collected and digitally archived our records. We sought volunteers and recruited five new Board Members and two new County Coordinators.

We broadened our outreach by becoming more involved in Maryland's equine community. We accepted leadership of the Maryland Horse Council's Trails and Greenways Committee. We represent Trail Riders and Recreational Riders on the Maryland Horse Industry Board. We hosted the Trails and Greenways session of the Maryland Horse Forum. We conducted a very successful Judged Pleasure Ride, an equally successful Silent Auction and Annual Dinner. We held two membership meetings, and organized seventeen trail rides. We conducted trail clearing at Upper Patuxent State Park, Monocacy State Park and Rocky Gorge.

In this issue of the Newsletter, we will be introducing our Board members. TROT's Board has thirteen members. Five members will be continuing their term. Four members have been reelected to a new term and five members are newly elected to the Board. We believe that this mix will provide an ideal combination of experience with the influx of new energy and new ideas.

I want to thank the following Board Members who have served on TROT's Board and contributed immeasurably to its activities and services. Although they are stepping down from the Board, I fully expect and hope their participation and will remain high for many years to come.

Jeanne Bond - Although Jeanne will be stepping off the Board, I am very thankful that she will remain Membership Registrar and County Coordinator for Cecil County. Her ideas and counsel have been of great service.

Deneen Martin - Deneen has been active in TROT's Judged Pleasure Ride and organized the event in 2009. She has served as Treasurer of TROT and led numerous trail rides and trail clearing events.

Pat Merson - Pat has been an active Board member for many years. Pat has been active in all of TROT's activities. Fortunately Pat will continue to be the County Coordinator for Frederick County.

Marilynn Miller - Marilynn organized TROT's Judge Pleasure Ride for ten years and is a former Vice President of TROT. She has at one time or another organized nearly every activity TROT has sponsored.

Pat Talbot - Pat was TROT's Trail Ride Coordinator for the last several years. Under her leadership the number and diversity of trail rides reached a new high. She has hosted TROT's Membership Meetings and has consistently stepped up to provide support.

The following businesses donated to the Silent Auction. Please use their services and thank them for their continued support of Trot.

| Bartley Trailers | H.R. Collins Trailers |
| Two Time Tack | Reddemeade Farm |
| American Livestock Supply | Southern States, Turf Center, Spencerville |
| Valley Vet | Performance Tack |
| Stablemates | Everything Equestrian |
| U.S. Rider | Maryland Tack |
MEET YOUR 2010 TROT OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TROT is truly blessed to have such a depth of capable and energetic leaders! So here are your officers and board of directors.

Ron MacNab, President. Ron has been a member of TROT since the late 1980's. In addition to serving as TROT President, Ron is Chairman of the Maryland Horse Council's Trails and Greenways Committee, and appointed by Governor O'Malley to the Maryland Horse Industry Board to represent Trail Riders and Recreational Riders. Ron serves on Montgomery County's Countywide Recreation Advisory Board and is a member of the Maryland National Capital Park Police Volunteer Mounted Park Patrol in Montgomery County. Ron is pictured here with Sergeant Pepper, his Rocky Mountain Horse.

T’mi Finkle, Vice President. T’mi has been a TROT member since 2000. She not only serves as TROT Vice President, she also serves as the Commander of the TROTSAR Mounted Search and Rescue Team, and as the TROT Charles County Coordinator. T’mi is pictured sharing quality time with her Racking Horse “Magnum.”

Suzanne Anderson, Secretary. Suzanne has been a member of TROT since 1991, and was 1 of the founding members of the TROT Search and Rescue team in 1992 with her Arabian gelding Bos Bask. In 2006, after having been team commander for several years, she retired from the team, passing the reins to T’mi Finkle and the new group of excellent team members. In 2007 at the age of 25, Bos was retired from active riding, and Suzanne began a new partnership with Cuppa Joe, a now 9 year old racking horse gelding.

Susan Railey, Treasurer. Susan Railey, Treasurer. Susan has done wonders managing TROT’s finances – working hard to keep us on time and under budget! Susan’s rides a trusty Icelandic named Garpur. Their photo was taken at Rocky Gorge Reservoir.

Kyle Jossi, Board of Directors. Kyle has been working for TROT for many years, previously serving as Trail Ride Coordinator. Kyle is also probably best known for her organizational and persuasive skills as coordinator for the Annual Silent Auction. Through her efforts, we raised $1,600 this year! Kyle is also known for her wonderful and spunky 36 year old thoroughbred “Lady”.

Priscilla Huffman, Board of Directors. Priscilla and her TB/QH cross, Mickey, are both trail ride enthusiasts and enjoy camping and riding in a variety of parks in local counties. After a 5-year term as TROT president, Priscilla continues to support TROT’s mission of trail preservation. She is currently coordinating with the membership chair, Jeanne Bond, on the 2010 TROT directory, and hopes to work with other board members to promote youth participation in TROT activities.

Susan Gray, Board of Directors. Susan is a land use attorney who has spent many years working with government entities on TROT’s behalf on trail preservation and easement issues. Several years ago she did the unthinkable and gave her soon to be spouse, Mike, a three year old filly she had bred to be her next riding horse as a wedding gift. She’s watched with glee (and trepidation) as totally green rider and horse have become a superb team. Susan and Mike enjoy trail riding, horse camping and great friends.

Pat Oliva, Board of Directors. Pat is a founding member of TROT, and also serves as the Howard County Coordinator. Pat has put more miles on her horse on trail rides than most of us put on our cars.

Katy Hart, Board of Directors. Katy became operational with TROTSAR in October 2008, and has been a TROT member for many years. The photo of Katy and Boxer was taken by TROT member Linda Davis in the summer
(TROT Board continued from page 3)

2008 at TROTSAR training. Boxer, a TWH, took Katy on her first horse swim in the Rappahannock River. Katy also has a second horse, Joey (Walkaloosa), qualified for SAR. She also has a TWH mare, 2 Morgan mares, a OTTB gelding, 4 dogs and 6 cats; and also takes care of a calico fish for one of the cats!

Bev Fox, Board of Directors. Bev has been supporting TROT for many years with her expertise in graphic arts. Bev’s guys are two half brothers -17 hand homebred bay thoroughbred geldings out of her mare "Lengths Ahead". The photo shows Bev riding McClure Pass - "Andy. The photo was taken trail riding outside of Southern Pines, NC in 2008.

Michele McGuinness, Board of Directors. Michele has been a member of both TROT and TROTSAR since 2003. Michele is an operational member (TROT-23) and the Maryland Regional Director with TROTSAR Mounted Search and Rescue Team. She has three geldings, 33 yr old Tom (TWH; retired), 24.5 yr old Cavalier (Arabian; certified SAR horse), and 6.5 yr old Shenandoah (gaited; in training). Michele enjoys trail riding at Patuxent and Patapsco, and training for SAR.

Allison Abernathy, Board of Directors. Allison gave herself a yearling Rocky Mountain horse, Jazz, a couple of years ago for her anniversary and she has been teaching him ground manners and putting him under saddle. Jazz will attend his first official TROT club rides this year. Allison lives in Bethesda with her husband, Jim, and dog, Sam, and Jazz lives in Sunshine Maryland with his friends Newton, Ace, Spur, and Lightning

Laury Lobel, Board of Directors. Laury is a native Washingtonian and currently resides in Ashton, MD. Her quarter horse, Ace, is boarded in Sunshine, MD. Laury's passions are horses, skiing, and golf (and eating).

Membership Report
Jeanne Bond, Membership Chairman

Worth noting:

- We had 3 new memberships and 9 renewals at the annual dinner. We had 3 additional new members sign up this past week who may also have been at the dinner (have no way of knowing for sure), but there were 3 people who came in together at the dinner who were not members and did not want to take the time to sign up then, but took membership apps to send in later. So our stats at the dinner may be better than first reported.

- A total of 82 memberships were represented at the dinner.

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TROT Accomplishments for 2009  
Ron MacNab  

- TROT chairs the Maryland Horse Council's Trails and Greenways Committee.  
- TROT honored with a Governor's appointment to the Maryland Horse Industry Board representing Trail Riders and Recreational Riders.  
- TROT hosted the Trails and Greenways session of the 2009 Maryland Horse Forum.  
- TROT is represented on Montgomery County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.  
- TROT asked to assist Department of Natural Resources outreach to equestrian organizations.  
- TROT is well represented by numerous volunteers on the Maryland state and Montgomery County mounted volunteer patrol units.  
- Developed a working relationship with several other equestrian and park interest groups.  
- Moderate news and events on MarylandTrailRiders and TROT Members Yahoo Groups.  
- Increased membership.  
- Produced six exceptional newsletters.  
- Developed and managed an approved budget.  
- Directors living out of area, may now attend Board Meeting by toll-free conference call.  
- Established an online archive for important TROT documents.  
- Offered two membership meetings with speakers.  
- Scheduled 18 trail rides.  
- Set up a committee to examine TROT by-laws and offer change recommendations.  
- Revised TROT by-laws.  
- Filled County Coordinator positions in Harford and St. Mary's counties.  
- TROT Search and Rescue Year End Statistics:  
  - 8 call outs  
  - 7 standbys  
  - Traveled 10,000 miles  
  - 1,000 volunteer hours.  
- Organized and conducted trail clearing events in:  
  - Patuxent State Park  
  - Monocacy State Park  
  - Rocky Gorge Reservoir  
- Supported new trail construction at:  
  - Upper Rock Creek  
  - Seneca Creek State Park  
  - Northwest Branch  
- Conducted Judge Pleasure Ride drawing 85 participants.  
- Conducted Annual Dinner and silent Auction.  
- Elected five new members to the Board of Directors.  

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE STORM  
Kyle Jossi  

Some of us are still digging out from the blizzard of 2010. I fully expect that those snow banks will be there to cool us off when we ride during the hot summer months. My challenge to all of you is to share with other TROT members, via the newsletter, lessons you have learned from this storm. Please let us know things you did that made the storm more bearable for you and your horses, things you wish you had done, and the lessons you learned. For example, I was notified by the boarding barn where my daughter keeps her horse that they were going to stop providing grain to the horses during the storm to encourage the horses to eat hay which helps more than grain to keep them warm. Feeding just hay creates "metabolic water" and reduces the possibility of colic when the horses are reluctant to go to their water source in the deep snow. I hope that Barbara Sollner-Webb will share with you the expertise she developed in shoveling snow off her barn roof for three days. She is proposing that Barn Roof Snow Tossing become a Winter Olympic event. Please send your thoughts and suggestions to the newsletter at nlosgood@verizon.net.  

Trail Maintenance and Development Update:  
Amy Kimble  

I met with Dave Powell- DNR the Sat. before Thanksgiving and he told me that he would like us to take on the following projects:  
- Monocacy DNR- I, and any volunteers, need to walk and flag the perspective trails and than have them okayed by Dave before establishing them.  
- A trail to create a loop using the existing trails.  
- Re-establish the existing trails on the corner of Rt. 28 and Park Mills Rd.  
- Establish a trail loop N of Rt. 28 at the Monocacy. These would get within a 1/4 mile of the C&O Canal  

Also he is very happy with our participation in keeping up the trails at the Patuxent State Park.
**County Updates**

**Need volunteers**
as contacts or coordinators for **Baltimore, Calvert, Prince George’s, 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

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**Charles County**
_T’mi Finkle_,

As within other areas of Maryland, Old Man Winter played havoc on the trails and bridle paths in Charles County. Pines, Hollies and Cedar trees seemed to find a way of falling into many bridle paths, making most trails completely impassable. The blizzards of 2010 resulted in hundreds of downed trees in Doncaster State Forest (on Rt. 6, west of La Plata, MD). We all know that the preservation of bridle paths means giving up some riding time and putting in some time clearing trails after such a devastating winter.

Five members of Trail Riders of Today (TROT) from Charles County (Maryland) joined forces with several members with the Friends of Doncaster Trails Inc. on Sunday March 7, 2010. Two work parties were formed and both groups headed into Doncaster State Forest to clear existing bridle paths of fallen trees. Long time TROT members “John and Helen Stacy” plotted the plan of attack and off we went to remove downed trees from riding trails within the Forest. Frozen ground with a half inch of soft slick mud on the surface made walking a wee-bit tricky, especially when chainsaws are the tool of choice. John and Helen are certified by the national park service for chainsaw use while performing trail maintenance; they insured that safety was paramount during our entire work detail. It was an honor being a part of the March 7th trail work detail as a swamper in Doncaster State Forest.

I encourage all TROT members and other equestrians to go out and give up a few hours of time this spring and do some trail clearing.

Ride Safe.

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**Montgomery County**
_Ron MacNab_

MNCPPC Department of Parks and the Montgomery County Department of Recreation are developing a combined twenty year plan called Vision 2030. This is an eighteen month planning process where public input will be counted heavily. Your comments are being accepted throughout the process.


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**St. Mary’s County**
_Kathy Glockner_

**St. Mary’s County Adds New State Properties**

In late April 2009, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources took title to significant historical properties in St. Mary’s County previously owned by the Jesuit Order of the Roman Catholic Clergymen for hundreds of years.

The state purchased the land to protect it from development, and paid $15.8 million for 910 acres at Kitts Point in St. Inigoes and $14 million for 790 acres at Newtonne Neck in Compton. The deeds for the two properties in St. Mary’s date back to 1793, but the church has had ownership of them since shortly after the founding of Maryland in 1634. Collectively, these lands are called the “Maryland Province Properties” and they are both surrounded by water.

The Kitts Point property is now a part of the state’s forestry division, while the Newtonne Neck acreage is a state park. In addition to these properties, additional farms owned by the Jesuits in Charles and Cecil counties totaling 4,473 acres sold for $56.9 million to the state. The equestrian community in St. Mary’s county has been riding on these two properties since the 1970’s along with clearing and maintaining trails. Continued access is a top priority for the equestrian community. Currently, there are two other state parks – St. Mary’s River Park and Greenwell State Park – which provide equestrian access in St. Mary’s county.

TROT President, Ron MacNabb, and St. Mary’s County TROT coordinator, Kathy Glockner, met with state representatives on January 28, 2010, in Annapolis to discuss the future of these properties and equestrian access. The DNR will conclude its property analysis and assessment this spring, and hopes to have a public input period so citizens can voice their proposals. During this process, Glockner will submit a letter outlining past access, and commitments to mobilize volunteers to maintain trails. Additionally, the De La Brooke Foxhounds W club has had prior access and will also voice their commitment to trail maintenance to ensure access.

To learn more about the properties, see aerial photos and view public documents, access the following website: [http://www.dnr.state.md.us/land/stewardship/province](http://www.dnr.state.md.us/land/stewardship/province)
Riders to the Rescue
Search And Rescue News:  www.trotsar.org
T’mi Finkle, Team Commander

On January 20 through 24, 2010, a total of five (5) team members of the TROTSAR Mounted Team responded to Roanoke Virginia for a search and recovery mission, for the remains of a two year old child. Each mounted team was deployed with a member of the Roanoke Police Mounted Unit. Team members rode in diverse areas, such as downtown business and warehouse districts, nearby National Park wilderness areas, residential neighborhoods, train yards (see photo), and along the banks of the James River. Team members with mounts that remained in the area for numerous days were provided (no-cost) board at the Roanoke Police Stable (Thank you Roanoke PD). The remains of the victim were recovered at the County landfill. Special thanks Trot-18, 28, 29, 31 and 33 for responding to this difficult mission. Trot-27 served as the mission dispatcher.

On January 29th four (4) members of the mounted team responded to Old Rag Mountain in the Shenandoah National Park for a search mission of a missing 42 yr-old male w/Muscular Dystrophy. The subject had gotten lost during the afternoon on January 28th (the day prior) and was found alive shortly before noon on the 29th. Due to an approaching snow storm the victim was flown via Virginia State Police Helicopter to a local hospital to be treated for hypothermia. All search and rescue responders (Trot-17, 18, 19 and 33) made it safely back home before the winter storm arrived. Trot-2 and 27 served as mission dispatchers.

In January the Team elected its new slate of TROTSAR officers for 2010/2011: Congratulation go out to: Tomi’ Finkle (Trot-2) as the Team Commander, Tim Black (Trot-30) as the Assistant Commander, Pete Fields (Trot-27) as the Team Secretary, Jacquie Cowan (Trot-13) as the Team Treasurer, Michele McGuinness (Trot-23) as the Maryland Regional Director, and Laurie Hanahan (Trot-28) as the Virginia Regional Director.

The TROTSAR Mounted Team Inc. is a 501(C) 3 tax-exempt, non-profit, all-volunteer mounted search & rescue squad. Our mission is to assist federal, tribal, state and local government agencies by providing highly skilled first responder resources during search & rescue operations and/or lifesaving activities for people who are stranded, lost and/or the rescuing of victims in wilderness, rural and urban areas.

Patuxent Wildlife Refuge
Susan Gray

As those of you who attended the annual dinner were made aware, a 15 year Comprehensive Plan is being developed for the Patuxent Wildlife Refuge—a refuge managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife service and located immediately south of Fort Meade in Anne Arundel County. The refuge is a huge block of “greenspace” located right along the Patuxent River in the center of the Baltimore/Washington corridor. Because of its size and its location along the Patuxent it is a particularly important environmental resource. The “North Tract” of the refuge is also an important resource for recreational users, particularly equestrians and cyclists. It contains over 80 miles of gravel roads (designed to carry army tanks) which can be used regardless of how wet it is in other locations. It is one of the few places in the Baltimore/Washington corridor (and maybe the only place) where one can ride or cycle regardless of the weather without damaging to trails. Equestrians have been riding these roads for over 30 years.

Unfortunately, in the last year or so, North Tract has cut back its hours of operations and closed the tract to all recreational users except hunters for much of the fall and winter. Although refuge management has indicated that there are no plans at this point to close North Tract to equestrians, one of the items put forth for consideration as part of the development of this 15 year Comprehensive Plan is further limiting recreational use.

The Fish & Wildlife Service held three public meetings on the development of this Comprehensive Plan the week after the annual dinner. TROT members had a strong presence at each of these meetings, advocating to keep North Tract open to equestrians and indeed to expand hours of operation and days of use. Refuge volunteers have indicated they could cover addition hours of operation. Recreational users, including riders/cyclists/hikers, could use North Tract on hunting days, if the area having the gravel roads was set aside for their use. North Tract is over 8000 acres in size so there is room for both horses/cyclists/hikers and hunters at the same time.

Now is a critical time for making sure that North Tract remains a riding venue and a resource we can use to be good stewards of the environment. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife service is accepting comments on what should be in the Comprehensive Plan through March 31, 2010. TROT encourages members to submit comments via http://www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/patuxent/ccphom.html or google “Patuxent Wildlife Refuge.” Click home page and then click “Conservation Plan.” We suggest you stress: 1) the importance of having roads which can be ridden on in wet weather in preserving trails in other areas of the Patuxent watershed, thus protecting the Bay and other environmental resources; 2) the uniqueness of the resource (the refuge is the only place around that has roads/trails which can be ridden on without harm when it is wet); and 3) the need to expand the hours of operation and the days of use. Since this is a federal facility you may also want to e-mail a copy of your comments to your congressperson. Thanks in advance for everyone’s help.
An Injured Horse and Helpful Strangers
Elisa Harvey
(This story appeared in The Gazette (March 3) will also appear in the March Equiery along with this picture of Alex and Ture)

Sometimes it is hard to understand when a terrible thing happens, until in the aftermath something incredible and wonderful unfolds. That is exactly what happened on Sunday February 7th around noon in Ashton at the intersection of the Routes 108 and 650. My son Alex and I were enjoying a wonderful ride on the beautiful sunny day following the first blizzard with our two Norwegian Fjord Horses through Sandy Spring and Ashton, before much plowing had occurred or many cars were around. Just past Sherwood High School I noticed some blood on the left front leg and belly of Alex’s horse Ture, and within seconds it became obvious that he had cut his leg below the fetlock on something (we never saw what it was) and severed the artery. The bleeding quickly became profuse and I guided us into the parking lot next to the Seven Eleven. I pulled off my scarf to form a tourniquet as best I could, but it was obvious that would not be nearly enough.

That’s when the miracle started to happen. People I didn’t even know started to appear to help. There were so many I don’t think I even got all of their names. My new heroes, the farrier Cowboy Glen and his friend Brian Henry, were first on the scene and they ran to get duct tape and rubber tubing to make a stronger tourniquet. I couldn’t move the horses or get my trailer at home out of the snow to take them anywhere so I called my equine veterinarian “Dr. Anna” Dechantaruk of Damascus Equine Associates. She was snowed in at her house near Sunshine so Brian volunteered to go and get her in his six wheel drive while Glen held the tourniquet. Another bystander, dentist Dr. John Arroyo and his daughter contacted their friend and equine veterinarian Dr. Wendy Walker in Brookeville, but she was stuck too. I think it was Dr. Arroyo’s wife that went to fetch her!

The cell phone calls were flying and many people were gathering to do anything they could to help. A woman named Kathi who lived nearby called to ask her friend Kyle Jossi, a well known member of TROT, to come and help since Kyle is a “horse person.” She brought halters and grain. Three girls living nearby, one of them named Aliana, went to get carrots for the horses. Glen soothed Ture while Kathi and others tried to help calm him. When Dr. Anna arrived the parking lot was full of blood but she calmly went to work right there, tranquilizing Ture and performing surgery on the spot to legate the artery and sew up the cut. As I recall Dr. Arroyo even assisted!

Meanwhile, Brian was coordinating borrowing a horse trailer from Bartley Trailers and fetching that (all on the snowy icy roads). My friend and teacher Vanessa Swartz from Windsor Manor Stables in Sandy Spring arrived to help. She called Erica Greenwald of Iron Bridge Hunt Pony Club and both Erica and Aliana independently called Rumsey Keefe of Avalon Farms right up the road to see if the horses could go there temporarily until the roads were clear back to my house and barn in Sandy Spring. With no hesitation or notice and barely any information at all Rumsey agreed. Dr. Walker arrived with more bandaging supplies and medications if needed. Then the horse trailer arrived and a small army of people then helped load our anxious horses onto the unfamiliar stock trailer. Brian took us and the horses to Rumsey’s, where they were made very comfortable right away. Then Brian went back to Bartley’s to drop off the trailer, and then even drove us home through the unplowed roads to our house! We even came back to the Seven Eleven on the way to find Cowboy Glen cleaning up.

Do you see what I mean? There were literally dozens of people who took hours out of their day to help a horse in distress. Many of them didn’t know us and those members of the equine community who did know us had other plans for that afternoon but that didn’t stop any of them from doing everything they possibly could to prevent Ture from bleeding to death in that parking lot. I am so overwhelmed with gratitude that I can never repay all of these extraordinary people for all they did that day. All I can offer is a most heartfelt thank you from the bottom of my heart to every single person that was there, and apologize for not getting everyone’s name in the chaos of the moment. I will remember this day for the rest of my life, not because of the potentially catastrophic injury that Ture suffered, but because of the miraculous response of the many people who stepped in to help a horse and his boy.

I also wanted to let everyone know that Ture has recovered well and is back to his usual mischievous self. We got him home from Rumsey’s just in time for the second blizzard and he is now comfortable in his own stall. We can watch him from our window again. For this I have so many people to thank.

WE NEED YOU! Now that riding weather is back, please remember – we need you to get the trails back in good shape after this damaging winter. Please help by clearing and repairing trails, joining an organized trail maintenance day, and by staying off wet trails!
2010 Maryland Equine Census
Rob Burk, Executive Director, Maryland Horse Industry Board

Most people are aware that in 2010 the United States will be taking a census of the population. However, many Marylanders are unaware that the Maryland Horse Industry Board (MHIB) has commissioned the United States Department of Agriculture to conduct a census of the Maryland equine population starting in May 2010. The importance of the findings of the Maryland Equine Census cannot be overstated. Maryland Department of Agriculture Secretary Buddy Hance focused on the importance of this census when he said "The [2002 Maryland Equine] census reinforced that horses of all kinds are remarkably important to Maryland’s agricultural sector, jobs, economy and land base. With the 2010 count, we will learn how the industry has changed, which can in turn help us determine what policy or economic development activities might be needed.” While some people fear what the information collected will be used for, Jim Steele, the Chairman of the MHIB and Manager of Shamrock Farm in Woodbine, stated “It is important that everyone who receives a questionnaire respond. Whether you own a single horse for your family’s recreational use or run a large breeding or training facility, we need your input. Anyone concerned about submitting personal or financial information should know that by law, all such information is strictly confidential. I am going to submit my survey and so should you.” So what should you do?

If you receive an equine census questionnaire in the mail, please complete the form and return it promptly.

If you are involved in equine activities and don’t receive a questionnaire by May 1 call the toll free number 1-800-675-0295 and request a questionnaire.

For more information about the Maryland Field Office of USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service or the 2010 Maryland Equine Census, visit: www.marylandhorseindustry.org/census.shtml and www.nass.usda.gov/md
UPCOMING RIDES

Allison Abernathy, Trail ride coordinator

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

All ride participants must:

- 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.

For any additional questions about TROT rides, please contact Allison Abernathy abernathy.allison@epa.gov

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 Allison Abernathy (see above).

Liberty Reservoir – Sunday April 18, 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 cantor 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

Rock Creek Park – Sunday, April 25
Ride leader Susan Montgomery

We have parking permits for the Nature Center Parking lot off Military Road. No fee, but a $2 donation to the Nature Center is always appreciated. Trails have some rocks, but you can get by without shoes as I recall. Restrooms in the Nature Center! Bring lunch and make sure you have scoops to clean up the parking lot.

Ready to ride at 10:30 am, Directions: http://shadowsrider.com/trails/rockcreek.htm, Contact: Susan Montgomery at 410-446-3138 or email shadowsrider6749@yahoo.com

Gunpowder Falls State Park - Saturday, May 1, Ride leader Karen Penharlow

Approximately 3 hours (maybe 9 miles?) starting at 10 AM on well maintained, well marked trails ... some hills, a few water crossings, some rocky ground. Horses must be used to hikers and bikers. Walk trot and a little cantor but based on abilities present. After the ride we will supply hotdogs, hamburgers, buns and condiments. People need to bring their own chairs, drinks, plates, plastic-ware and, if they like, something to share with the group. Event will be canceled if we have significant rain 48 hours prior to the ride.

In the saddle at 10 AM, Location: Gunpowder Falls State Park/Sweet Air (Harford/Baltimore Counties), Contact: Karen Penharlow at 410-236-9365 or email KlawPaws@aol.com

C & O Canal – Saturday, May 15, Ride leader Anna Slaysman

There will be three different rides—a walking group, a moderate pace group and a fast group. Each group will ride from Anna’s farm and surrounding parkland to the C &O Canal. There is ample trailer parking and water for your horses. A potluck is planned for after the ride.

In the saddle at 10:30 AM, Location: Potomac Riverside Farm, Dickerson MD, Contact: Anna Slaysman at 301-972-8187

Rocky Gorge Watershed Burtonsville/Laurel - Saturday, May 22, Ride leaders: Terry Ledley, Barbara and Denis Webb

Come join us on these spectacularly scenic (and actually non-rocky) trails along the Patuxent River’s Rocky George Reservoir. Terry will lead a walking ride and Barbara and Denis will lead a faster paced group. If we are lucky we might even spy our nesting bald eagles. A pot-luck meal at the Webb’s will cap off the fun. Please call Terry to make your reservation.

In the saddle at 11AM, Location: Burtonsville/Laurel, Contact: Terry Ledley at 301-776-2661

Agricultural History Farm - Saturday, May 29, Ride leader Deneen Martin

The Agricultural History Park is a beautiful place to ride with its mowed grassy paths and shady forest trails. There will be creeks, woods, open fields and bridges. We will have ride leaders for all levels of experience—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 drink, chair, and something to share at a potluck afterwards.

In the saddle at 10 AM, Location/parking: Agricultural History Farm, 18400 Muncaster Road, Derwood MD Drive to the end of the long asphalt drive way 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: Deneen at 301-253-2955 or email deneenmartin7@msn.com

Callithrea Farm Loop – Saturday June 12, Ride leader Naomi Manders

This is an easy 1 1/2 hour experience w/gentle slopes through the Park. Many Callithrea horses are unshod, but the towpath is hard. Pace is walk only and single file along towpath between locks for about 2 miles (bikes, strollers, leashed dogs, canoes on canal) and then back through the (Upcoming rides continued on page 11)
(Upcoming Rides continued from page 10)

Park to complete the loop. One solid, short bridge with rails. (The 2 locks have big wide bridges over the canal.) We have a nice gazebo for afterwards - leader will bring lemonade & cookies so plan to bring more edibles to share.

In the saddle at 11 AM, Address: 15000 River Road, Potomac 20854, Contact: Naomi Manders at 301-279-7994 (cell) for day of ride only - 240-994-8129) – or email Naomimanders0@gmail.com

Patapsco Father's Day Ride: Sunday June 20
Ride leader Susan Montgomery

There is a $3 fee per vehicle to enter the park. Park in the field across from the basketball court. Restrooms are across the field from where we park. This is a busy park, there will be kids playing ball, frisbee, bikers, etc. Lunch will be at Woodstock Inn. There are places to tie your horse, so bring a halter and lead. You can eat in the Inn, or bring your own and eat at the picnic tables.

Ready to ride at 10:30 am, Location: Park in McKeldin area off Marriottsville Rd., Directions: From I 70W take Marriottsville Rd exit. Cross over river and up hill, park entrance is on your right. From 170E take exit for Route 32. If you go south, take left at first light (Route 144) and then left on Marriottsville Rd. Follow above directions. If you take Route 32 north, go right on Route 99 (Old Frederick Rd) then left on Marriottsville, follow above directions, Contact: Susan Montgomery at 410-446-3138 or email shadowsrider6749@yahoo.com

Morgan Run Mom n Me Ride - Sunday June 27,  Ride leader Melaney Hochheiser

Would you like to ride with and meet other parents who ride with their children? This is the ride for you! This will be an easy ride thru the wide grassy mowed paths and forest trails of this scenic park. There are minor stream crossings and a few rocky spots. The ride will last 1.5 to 2 hours and will be slow-- a walk or possible trotting if all parties are comfortable with a trot. The parking is ample and the park has picnic benches. There is no water at the trailhead—your horse can drink from the small streams we cross or you can bring water. Bring a lunch and sit and visit awhile afterwards. The ride leader will bring a variety of cold drinks.

In the saddle at 10 AM, Contact: Melaney Hochheiser at 410-239-0614 (h) or 443-375-2593(c) or email mah612@msn.com

Patuxent River State Park (Brown Church Rd) - Saturday, July 17, 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 stream crossings and hills. There are a few rocky spots. Bring lunch.

In the saddle at 10 AM, Location/parking: Park on Brown Church Rd by the park service sign. Parking is limited to less than 10 trailers., Contact: Lisa Troutman at: 301.253.9243 or email cat.home@comcast.net

Codorus State Park - Sunday, July 18, Ride leader Ivy Smink

Bring lunch. The pace will be walk, trot, and canter. This is a 8 mile loop with variable footing (meaning occasional rocky sections). There is ample parking and a porta potty.

In the saddle at 10 AM, Location: Hanover, PA Contact: Ivy at 410.875.5691 or email ivysmink@qis.net

Liberty Reservoir – Sunday, Aug 15,  Ride leader Ivy Smink

The pace will be walk, trot, and canter. The terrain is hilly and rocky and there will be multiple stream crossings. Shoes or boots recommended.

In the saddle at 9 AM, Location/Parking: Park off Deer Park Road. Parking is limited to 8 trailers. Contact: Ivy at 410-875-5691 or email ivysmink@qis.net

Jug Bay Saturday - Saturday, August 21,  Ride leader Susan Montgomery.

There are a couple of places where they have put down rock on the trail to prevent erosion, but the rest of the footing is good, shoes not potted. We will be parking at Selby Landing, which is all the way down the road to the waterfront. There will be port-a-potties there. We plan on riding to the visitor center for lunch; there are a few machines for sodas, etc so bring cash

Ready to ride at 10:30, Location: Selby Landing, Directions: From 301 turn east on Croom Rd. Follow the road for a few miles, be careful of the really sharp right turn! Left on Croom Airport Rd. Keep going straight, the road will make a turn to the left at the pavilions. Follow the road all the way down to the boat ramp, and park in the lot there., Contact: Susan at 410-446-3138 or email shadowsrider6749@yahoo.com

Little Bennett - Saturday, August 28,  Ride leader Lisa Troutman

Beautiful trails in the forest and along some grassy fields. This park is fairly rocky so horses may need shoes or boots. The pace will be walk, trot, and canter. Ample parking. Bring lunch.

In the saddle at 10 AM, Contact: Lisa at: 301.253.9243 or email cat.home@comcast.net

Manassas Battlefield - Sunday, September 5.  Ride leader Susan Montgomery.

We will park in the lot on Groveton Rd, plenty of space and picnic tables. Footing is dirt roads and tracks. I know there are bathrooms at the visitor center, but we may not be riding near it. They may have port-a-potties at the picnic area.

Ready to ride at 10:30 am, Location: Groveton Road parking lot, Contact: Susan at 410-446-3138 or email shadowsrider6749@yahoo.com

Judged Pleasure Ride - September 18 (Rain date September 19), Coordinated by Deneen Martin

TROT’s Judged Pleasure Ride is our signature event and is always great fun for participants and volunteers. Come and enjoy the beautiful rolling fields and woods of the Park and try you and your horse’s ability to negotiate obstacles and conduct challenging maneuvers. Lots of fun and great camaraderie; you will find yourself talking about it all year. Bring a lunch. There will be lots of categories and lots of prizes. Please support this event, it is TROT’s biggest fundraiser!

Start time: ride start is 10 AM, Location/Parking: Agricultural History Farm Park, 18400 Muncaster Road in Derwood, Maryland. See also http://www.mcparkandplanning.org/Parks/facilities/ag_farm.shtm. Contact: Deneen at 301-253-2955 or at deneenmartin7@msn.com

Breezy Loop Boyds, MD - Sunday September 26,  Ride leader Ron MacNab

A beautiful ride through rolling farm land and woods. The length of the loop is 4.6 miles long and takes about 1.5 hours at a walk. The trail is on private land that has been graciously

(Upcoming Rides continued on page 12)
I am looking for riding partner(s):

I'm looking to go on trails, including TROT rides. I live in Damascus and my horse is also in Damascus on Long Corner Rd. I work evenings so I can go on rides during the day, the earlier the better. I don't have a particular pace I prefer. I'm good with any pace but right now my horse is out of shape so I need to take it easy on the poor boy.

Christiane Ritcher , email: lapado2000@gmail.com

Need a ride/Share a ride!

Do you have a two or three horse trailer, but don't like traveling alone? Do you have a horse, but no trailer? TROT organizes some great trail rides throughout Maryland. It would be a shame to miss those fun times because you don't like to travel alone or because you don't have a trailer. We want to provide a forum space for people looking for a traveling partner, so please write to the TROT Newsletter at nlosgood@verizon.net.

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

To place an ad
email: nlosgood@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

TROT Members: Regular (100 word) ad FREE!

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.

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

Horse Boarding – Field board plus (feeding available twice a day); available for 2-3 horses in small, private barn catering to trail riders. Direct access to Patuxent River State Park and Rachel Carson Park with miles of public-access trails. Owner operator lives on premises, assuring individual attention to the horses. Ideally located in Sunshine, MD (Montgomery County). Friendly barn – other boarders are active TROT and CMSC members. $245 per month, plus feed cost based on individual horse’s needs. Contact Marie at (301) 774-4330 or marieathq@verizon.net.

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.

For Rent: Charming, historic log cabin on 19 acres of pasture and woods with creek and barns in Mount Airy. Three bedrooms, one bath, beautiful slate and wood floors, new gas stove heat and cherry kitchen cabinets. $1500/month, available immediately. For inquiries or to arrange a showing, call (301) 990-0110 and leave message.

Need a temporary place to board
I am looking for a reasonably priced place to board my gelding as he recovers from founder. Must have stall and turnout, cannot field board. Also, if anyone has a horse that needs exercise or has an extra horse and would like a trail partner, I’d love to ride while my horse is getting better! Contact me, Lori Bivins at jetta0127@yahoo.com.

Belle Cote Farm: Field board available for adults on a private farm in Burtonsville, MD. Lighted outdoor arena and direct access to WSSC trails. $250/mo. Prefer retired, semi-retired, or non-showing horses. Contact Debby at (301) 641-8594 or email at bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com.

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.

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**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 (301) 641-8903 or email at bcfarmgirl@hotmail.com

Partial or Full Lease. 14.1 hh part Connemara, 12 yo mare. Cute bay, solid, pretty and friendly. Perfect for that smallish adult rider who wants to “downsize” off their TB or for a family with young beginner riders. Quiet but responsive on trails; great brakes with a snaffle. Boarded at friendly family-oriented barn in Poolsville; close to Towpath and trails. Contact Karen at widgaither@aol.com.

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


18” Thornhill protrainer trail saddle – medium tree – color: brown, complete with fittings (stirrups leathers, weighted stirrups and 2-46” girths. Very comfortable for long hours in the saddle. Excellent condition. Asking $775 for set. Email for photos. Email: erhodes@gingery.net or cell: (301) 717-6178.

For Sale: 17 inch Stubben Athos Saddle, med. wide tree, with fittings (stirrups, etc.). Saddle has been well maintained and is in excellent condition. Great for trail riding, etc. Just in time for Christmas. Asking $400.00. Please call (301) 829-2498 or (240) 308-1593 leave message.

**SERVICES**

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

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**Trail Guides**

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

- **Blockhouse Point (Farm Loop on Canal at Violettes Lock)**
  Naomi Manders  e-mail: naomimanders0@gmail.com

- **Breezy Loop Boyds, MD** an easy hour and 15 minutes.
  Naomi Manders  e-mail: naomimanders0@gmail.com

- **Cactoctin Mountain Park and Little Bennett**
  Marilyn 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

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

- **Montgomery Agricultural History Farm Park and Anna-polis 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
The Back Page
from the Newsletter Staff

See Page 1 for information on the 2010 TROT Trail Ride Challenge – ride in at least three TROT rides this year and get an award! Ride in the most TROT rides this year and get a special prize! Just wait until you see our 2010 trail ride lineup! Oh, and kids are eligible for special awards!

Meet your TROT Officers and Board Members – see Pages 3 and 4.

Save the Date! The TROT Judged Pleasure Ride has been scheduled for September 18, 2010. It’s never too early to mark that calendar!