

trot

Trail Riders Of Today

Dedicated to maintaining and expanding sustainable trails for equestrian use.

www.trot-md.org

Get your friends to join - the higher TROT's membership, the more effective is its lobbying for trails!

September, 2018

Founded 1980

Number 229

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Thank you, Jean McKay	1
TROT Need a Secretary	1
Best Wishes After Gale's Accident	1
President's Message	1,6
Farewell from Outgoing Editor	1
Lisbon Christmas Parade	2
Tributes to Terry Ledley	2-5
Tribute to David Stang	5
Tribute to Frank Dietz	5
Great Early TROT Photo	6
TROT Special Events Survey	6
Upcoming Trail Work	7
Recent Trail Work and Activities	8
Upcoming TROT Trail Rides	8-10
Mo Co Park Closures for Hunting	10
Recent TROT Trail Rides	10-11
An Impressive Artist – Jean Cooper	11
Saving At-Risk Horses	12-13
Working Equitation & Polocross	13-14
Virtual Obstacle Shows	14
Valuable Info in the Sept. Equiery	14
Insulin Resistance	14
Baltimore County Report	15
Anne Arundel County Report	15-16
Carroll County Report	16
Howard County Report	16
Laurel Area Report	16
Washington County Report	16-17
Summaries of Board Meetings	17
Get Your TROT License Plates	17
TROT Information and Who's Who	18
Welcome New Members	18
A Helpful Trail Guide	18
Classifieds Ads	18-19
Special Thanks	19

[Photos and articles without attribution are from the Newsletter Editor, Barbara Sollner-Webb]

NEWSLETTER HONORING GREAT TROT MEMBERS

Since the last TROT newsletter, three wonderful equestrians have unfortunately passed away: Terry Ledley, a founding TROT member and continual great trails advocate; David Stang, who did wonderful mapping of trails; and Frank Dietz, a 25-plus year member of the TROT Mounted Search and Rescue Team. See info on these great folks below. Our apologies if there were other losses the board had not heard about.

This is also a less that we should not wait until a person passes to fully appreciate them and their contributions. So lets make a point of supporting, hugging, and congratulating fellow trail advocates whenever we see and work with them.

APPRECIATION TO JEAN MCKAY, PAST SECRETARY

TROT's executive board thanks Jean McKay for her very good work as secretary of TROT for the past 2 ½ years. Kudos to Jean!

TROT IS LOOKING FOR A NEW SECRETARY

Please consider volunteering as TROT's secretary. Responsibilities include taking notes at monthly board meetings, distributing those minutes and reminders of upcoming meetings, and assisting in developing the agendas. This is a great way to become active in TROT and help advance TROT's mission of preserving open space and equestrian trails. It is also a great way to meet other dedicated equestrians and trail riding buddies and to enjoy yummy potlucks at the board meetings. Please consider.

GET WELL QUICKLY WISH TO GALE

Please join in wishing Gale Monahan, TROT's President, as speedy a recovery as is possible from the nasty shoulder injury that she unfortunately recently suffered. It is probably worthwhile for all to remember that even beloved horses can spook.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

from Gale Monahan

It has been difficult these past several months. Late July we lost one of my friends for 30 years and a founding member of TROT, Terry Ledley. I often went to her for her advice on many things, some not dealing with TROT at all. I will truly miss her. The Equiery requested I write something about Terry. I am sharing this with you in this newsletter. [See pages 5 and 6 below.]

We also lost a TROT member of many years and the husband of someone I hold dear, Frank Dietz, husband of Suzanne Anderson. Suzanne ... [continued on page 6]

FAREWELL FROM YOUR OUTGOING NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Barbara Sollner-Webb
([<bsw@jhmi.edu>](mailto:bsw@jhmi.edu))

Thank you all for having me as your TROT newsletter editor for the past nearly four years. I have greatly enjoyed striving to make the TROT newsletters as informative, interesting, and advancing of sustainable trails and their use as I could. However, I was recently informed that TROT's "executive board" decided to get a new newsletter editor. If you also felt my newsletters had grown tired or had inappropriate articles, I apologize. Nonetheless, I will continue as TROT's trail ride coordinator, so please plan to come on TROT trail rides and ideally also offer to lead one. Happy trails!

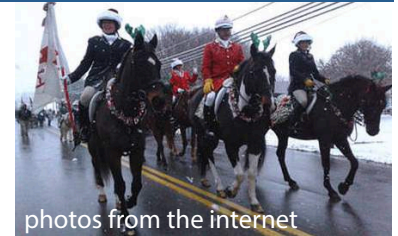
The Lisbon Christmas Parade

from Fritzi Grow



WANTED: 250 Horses, Mules, Donkeys & Minis for the Lisbon Christmas Parade. We're excited that The 2018 Great Lisbon FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade Registration is NOW OPEN!

We can't wait to see your application -- send them in now! For info and to download an application, visit <<http://lisbonchristmasparade.com/participate.html>>.



photos from the internet

TRIBUTES TO FOUNDING TROT MEMBER TERRY LEDLEY (1926-2018)

Here is the sad notice I posted July 25th on Terry's passing, followed by a few of the many responses that were received, in the order they arrived. **Original notice:** "It is with incredibly heavy heart that I am letting you know Terry passed away a couple of hours ago. She has always been such a bright, vibrant spirit, I fully expected her to get back to how she was before, and come home to continue being our wonderful neighbor and fellow-rider, still for a long time. This is so devastating. Only last Friday, she told me how she hoped to come home soon, maybe to have her birthday (this coming Friday) here in this house she loves."

-- **Jean Swart:** "Ride on Terry!"

-- **Stephanie Brennan:** "You are an inspiration to all and will be greatly missed."

-- **Maria Schwartz:** "Such a bright spirit. Terry, you will be sadly missed."

-- **Laury Lobel:** "She will be missed by so many of us. She was my idol!"

-- **Jacki Edens:** "To celebrate Terry's funeral on her birthday is fitting. A true celebration for a life beautifully lived. Godspeed, Terry, you will be missed and long remembered."

-- **Janet Whelan:** "She was definitely one of my heroes. I certainly hope to live as long as she did and to be riding as long as she did...that's a blessing indeed! She has left an imprint for sure."

-- **Jennifer Neese:** "What an amazing woman! It is hard to imagine going on rides without...Terry and Mr. Ikey anymore. Such wonderful memories of an incredible and inspirational person. We will miss you, Terry!"

-- **Pamela Howard:** "I'm very sorry to hear about Terry's passing. She was such an inspiration and lived life doing what she loved!"

-- **Debby Poole:** "Terry waited a long time to own her horse, long after her kids were grown and she was done with all the normal family responsibilities. Her first horse, Billy, a fancy chestnut Arabian, was her pride and joy. Her other four-legged companion, Fluff, was a beautiful Border Collie. While riding from Waters Gift Farm in Burtonsville, she discovered [and created] the beautiful Patuxent watershed trails. Terry was always an advocate for maintaining and keeping the environment pure and safe. While riding Billy, she taught Fluff to pick up trash and bring it to her; Fluff stood up and banked off Billy, handing the trash up to Terry to put in bags. Terry added these bags to bigger trash bags that she kept along the trails. During this time, Terry also became involved with the WSSC watershed patrols who rode horses from my farm. She guided the officers through the trail system to trouble spots or where she found evidence of illegal hunting, fishing or campfires. She would regularly go out with them in their patrol boats and jeeps to pick up the many trash bags she had accumulated, as well as clear and work on opening trails. This was the beginning of Terry becoming a founding member of TROT and other groups that protect and support trail growth, greenways, birding, hiking, and equestrian trails for future generations. Sure gonna' miss her! "

-- **Deneen Martin:** "Terry Ledley and Silver led one of the first TROT rides at McKeldin Park that I had the privilege to attend. Not only was it a fantastic ride through a fabulous park, it was obvious that Terry had a love for her horse and showing us the trails, but her enthusiasm for TROT and its goal of preserving such a precious gift and what it had to offer all of us. That was the reason I joined TROT and have been active for the last 20-plus years. I always told Terry she was my hero. I treasure all the fun rides and annual dinners with she and [her late husband] Bob, who could eat more than was humanly possible."

-- **Barbara Cannizzo:** "She was a TROT member a bit before she got Billy; we cringed when a new rider bought a 3 yr old Arabian."

-- **Priscilla Huffman:** "I first met Terry when I moved to the Silver Spring area about 30 years ago and boarded at a barn in West Laurel on the Rocky Gorge reservoir trails. She came to the barn and drew me a quick map of the watershed trail system, which I have to this day. Her enthusiasm was contagious. I was consulting for a few years while she was an active rider so we could often ride on weekdays. No matter how many times we rode the same trails, Terry would be overjoyed every time. I can hear her saying "ISN'T this beautiful!!!" at every turn, especially at the views over the reservoir. She was especially proud of the sign placed by WSSC at the beginning of a trail designated the "Terry Ledley trail" as a thank you for her many years of service. My favorite Terry Ledley saying is: "I never went on a trail ride and said *I wish I had stayed home and cleaned the house.*" Her unending joy at the beauty of all nature, her love of her dogs and horses, and her determination to keep riding into her late years are a source of inspiration to everyone who knew her. Terry will always be with us on the trails."



Terry (left) on one of her hundreds of TROT rides

continued from page 2 – Memories to Terry Ledley

-- **Barbara Sollner-Webb:** [Terry's son asked me to write up a message for Terry's shiva:]

"Terry Ledley was an amazing woman, a true equestrian, a great lover of nature, a warm and caring person with very high ethical principles, and a fantastic friend and neighbor. I first met Terry over 24 years ago when a tiny but incredibly dynamic lady knocked on our door, bringing along with her beloved Border Collie, Shep. She also brought along a video of her riding the WSSC's equestrian trail in the reservoir behind our house on her beloved Arab, Silver, showing Shep picking up discarded beer bottles and soda cans and banking off Silver to hand Terry the trash so that she could carry it out, without ever having to bend down. From riding by our house, she had noted that our horses had just arrived and she asked if Silver could join them living here. A fantastic friendship rapidly developed. Her love for nature, horses, trails, dogs, and worthwhile causes was incredible and infectious. She rode from our barn daily, always also taking along our St. Bernard, Sydney.

"Terry quickly taught me that branches do not spontaneously avoid growing into this trail along the reservoir, as I have naively assumed (being a complete newbie trail rider), but they need to be continually trimmed back. And she put on my saddle my first clippers in a case, which I started always using when out riding. Over the years, my husband's and my friendship with Terry and her amazing husband Bob blossomed (did you know that Bob invented the CAT scanner?), and they soon bought the house next door and became our wonderful neighbors. A few years later, in a lovely ceremony that was a complete surprise to Terry, the WSSC dedicated to her this trail along the the Rocky Gorge Reservoir that she had worked on almost every day for 20 years already.

"Over the years, we had far too many fun and worthwhile times to even start recounting here, but suffice it to say that Terry's love for nature, riding, animals, and family was always an inspiration. It is clear why so many trail riders always say that she is their hero!

"Terry was a talented musician, a contributor to the early development of computer programming, loving wife and mother of two sons, and a devotee of Border Collies and horses, especially Arabs. She and her family have camped at and hiked across every park in the west and Alaska you have ever heard of. After getting her first horse at age 50, she spent most of the next 40 years almost daily riding and doing trail building and trail maintenance, which quickly became a true passion of hers. She was a founding member of TROT and was on the TROT board at the time of her passing. Until very recently she still co-led TROT rides, using my Mr. Ikey after her horse was retired two years ago. Terry, we will miss you terribly!"

-- **Susan Gray:** "A tribute to Terry and her passion for trail advocacy:

"*In particular, the purposes of this association are: (a) To obtain, maintain, preserve and promote open space and equestrian trails for public recreational use and for the ecological and aesthetic benefit of the community...*" I knew Terry Ledley for close to 30 years and the above statement (the first purpose in TROT's bylaws) was the embodiment of Terry's life. Terry was a fierce advocate for trails. She rode them and she pruned them, but more importantly fought for them. She understood a fundamental point regarding trails in this region: you seldom get or keep them without a fight somewhere along the line. She recognized the need for vigilance. She understood the importance of a tiny ad Denis Webb spotted in a local paper announcing that the National Park Service was changing its General Plan for North Tract, and helped Barbara and Denis rally TROT members in droves to testify against the plan to ban horses. As a result, North Tract remains the only refuge in the US refuge system to allow horseback riding.

"Terry understood that obtaining and keeping trails and open space, at its core, is political. She knew the importance of educating elected officials as to the benefit of trails and their lack of harmful environmental impacts when built well and used responsibly. She believed in giving elected officials the opportunity to support trails and TROT -- such as they did in the fights to retain trail access to the Rocky Gorge Trail and to establish a trail network in Sandy Spring. She was not shy about considering support or non-support of trails to be an election issue. Terry knew the magical nature of trail riding and that once one got an elected official on a horse on a trail -- such as happened with the federal official reviewing plans for the ICC and with many elected officials in the fight to retain WSSC's Rocky Gorge trail -- they often were hooked and then could be counted upon to support trails (that ICC trail ride resulted in ICC bridges being designed high enough to trail ride under).

"Terry was also well aware that fights to preserve trails and implement land use policies not adverse to horses in this metropolitan area are often not for the faint of heart. She fully supported TROT organizing and participating in a march (with picket signs) on the Howard County Office Building in 2013 to underscore its and the small farm community's opposition to proposed zoning changes making it more difficult to keep horses and other livestock in the county.... [continued next page]



Terry loved Silver



Terry, Shep, Silver, and "her" sign from WSSC

Terry's 1st place JPR



Terry loved snow rides →



continued from page 3 – Susan Gray's memory to Terry Ledley

While we didn't stop all their proposed adverse regulations, we did stop many of them. And Terry gave crowd-riveting testimony at very many hearings, including that to not privatize WSSC (which likely would have lost the trails on the Rocky Gorge Reservoir).

"Most importantly to my mind, Terry knew that advocacy, and indeed involvement, emanate from the base up. She was passionate about hearing everyone's voice, giving everyone a seat at the table, facilitating discussion and dissent—sometimes she simply called it free speech.

"To Terry, a woman of honor, character, persistence and sheer determination—a woman many of us idolized—a woman who knew the meaning and power of inclusiveness, equality and effective advocacy, we will miss you.

"In thinking about writing the above, I found a wonderful piece from the organization "Bolder Advocacy". Below is an excerpt from this www.bolderadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/What_Is_Advocacy.pdf, giving examples of what is allowed under 501(c)(3) -- most of which were done historically in TROT's core mission, of which Terry was an amazingly effective advocate.

What kinds of activities comprise advocacy work?

- Educate Legislators: Provide information on issues.
- Invite Legislators: Leave a lasting impression.
- Organize a rally, Draft a Petition: Demand change.
- Regulatory efforts: Take action at the agencies
- Educate the Public about the Legislative Process; introduce communities to the legislators who represent them.
- Nonpartisan voter education & mobilization: Inform citizens on the issues and encourage them to vote.
- Educational conferences: Gather, network, share information, and plan for the future.
- Lobbying: Advocate for or against specific legislation. [501(c)(3)s (i.e., TROT) can do non-political lobbying.]"

-- **Gale Monahan** asked that we reprint verbatim her tribute to Terry that originally ran in the Equiry (September issue) :

When asked to write something about Terry Ledley, one of 22 founding members of Trail Riders of Today who passed away June 25th. I said sure, no problem. Well, there was a problem. I had known Terry since the late 1980s and had so many wonderful memories, I couldn't sort through them all. So, I reached out and asked a number of folks who have also known Terry for a long time to help me. I heard from a number of those founding members who started TROT: Judy Richardson, who is TROT's first President, Mary Prowell, Pat Oliva, Anne Bennof and Barbara Cannizzo (who is now living in Colorado). Sandy Boyd, also a founding member, spoke to me on the phone and we shared our memories. The others who submitted memories and have known Terry for a long time were Priscilla Huffman, Debbie Poole, John and Susan Railey and Barbara Sollner-Webb. I have spoken to many other wonderful TROT members who had known her and loved Terry's contagious enthusiasm for life.

Terry became a founding member of TROT by seeing a flyer that was put up in local tack/feed stores about a meeting that was going to be held at Judy Richardson's home (founding president of TROT) on March 4, 1980 about saving the Paint Branch Regional Park from development as Montgomery County had lifted its' ban on development. TROT grew from there to a State wide organization. Terry stayed involved from day one. She was still on the TROT board letting her views and thoughts be known.

Terry didn't start riding until later in life. She bought her first horse on her 50th birthday, a beautiful 3 year old chestnut Arabian she named Billy. Then, she decided to learn how to ride. After a few mishaps and misunderstandings, the two became true partners. Billy took care of her on the trails.

Terry loved riding the WSSC/Rocky Gorge Watershed trails, which were right off of where she kept Billy. She loved showing these trails to anyone who wanted to see them. Her favorite time to ride these trails was when the Mountain Laurel was in bloom. Terry would prune and clean the trails every time she went out on them. Terry decided to get 2 Border Collies and trained them to pick up trash along the watershed trail, handing bottles and cans to her as she sat on her trusted Billy. Terry was able to get the maintenance/rangers folks from the WSSC to help remove those larger logs and trees that fell on the trails. No one said no to Terry. The staff of the WSSC respected this tiny woman (not sure she was even 5') who was bigger than life with her energy and enthusiasm. Soon the WSSC were sending their representative to our TROT meetings, who would testify before the Park and Planning Commission in favor of TROT. Because of Terry's dedication to these trails, the WSSC named a portion of the trail system to her in 1998. Even later in life, when she no longer had a horse, she would ride her trusted "tractor", a lawn mower with the blades removed, so she could go out and prune the WSSC trails. When she would find herself stuck (as she said "in a pickle"), she would call her neighbor, John Railey, to help her out of her "pickle".

Terry didn't just ride the WSSC. I am sure she rode about every trail there was she could get to. She and another founding member, Mary Prowell, did a bit of traveling to many parks, both in Maryland and surrounding states, some no longer used much by riders. Terry's enthusiasm, curiosity and love for nature and life made her always wanting to see what was around the next bend. There were times when Mary (an endurance rider) would need to tell Terry "We need to go back now" more than once.

Terry and her husband, Bob, would, for many years, take a trip out west to the Colorado Mountains, where they would adventure on horseback into the wilderness with an outfitter. I was invited on a couple of their adventures into the Rockies. Where Terry would ride, Bob would hike. Somehow Bob would always beat the horses to the campsite. Even if Terry had been on the same trip before, and over the same trails before, she would find wonder in all she saw.

On these trips to the Rocky Mountains, Bob would take photos and movies. At the TROT annual meeting/pot luck, Bob would show these movies which he had narrated. They were informative and funny as Bob put a bit of .. *[continued next page]*

continued from page 4 – Gale Monahan's memory to Terry Ledley

his sense of humor into them. Everyone always seemed to enjoy them.

When Billy hurt himself in the field, and after many months of trying to nurse him back to at least pasture sound, he had to be put down. Terry was heartbroken. It was hard for her to start looking for another horse. Along came Silver, a very stylish gray. She was not fond of grays. Silver carried her for many more years of happy riding and miles of trails while she pruned before he developed Cushings. He foundered and it became clear he would not be able to live a normal life and Terry had to say goodbye to another trusted friend.

Soon after, a neighbor and friend, Barbara Sollner-Webb, talked Terry into an old steady school horse, Snuffy. Another gray. No one knew how old Snuffy was but he was just what she needed as she, herself, was not as young as when she had Billy. Snuffy lived a good long life and was lost due to heart failure.

Terry was passionate about almost everything she did. She loved the outdoors and all it had. She loved horses, dogs and trails. Her joy about everything nature was contagious. She reminded us every time we were around her that what may seem mundane can actually be a wonder, something to treasure.

Memorial contributions in Terry's name may be made to the National Park Foundation, <www.nationalparks.org/tribute> or 1110 Vermont Ave NW Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005.

MEMORY TO DAVID STANG

from Dana Grabiner (who boarded at the same barn)

David Stang had recently stepped forward as a prospective new resource for digital trail mapping. He attended a TROT board meeting early this year and described the kinds of mapping he was doing and could offer to TROT's website for all to use. Everyone was excited. **[Editor's note: See article in the January, 2018 TROT newsletter. While TROT never really embraced David's offer to put on TROT's website his trail mapping – and following his retirement, he was making good on his intent to ride and map every trail in Maryland -- this swell mapping is still on his website for all to enjoy, at <montgomeryrides.com>.]**

David died July 8 of acute myeloid leukemia at age 72, just 11 days after being diagnosed. His obituary appeared in the Washington Post, from which this write-up is adapted: A native of Sayville, NY, David was a later-in-life devotee of trail-riding, first with his horse and then with a couple of sturdy mules, all boarded at one time or another at Potomac Riverside Stables in Dickerson. In 2017, David wrote a book called "Horse Science, Horse Sense," focusing on horse-human interaction. His final equine companion was a white, roach-maned jenny named Freckles (because of her speckles) who was practically perfect. After David's passing, Freckles had no trouble finding a loving new home.

David's profession was as an experimental social psychologist and college professor, having earned a Ph.D. in psychology from Syracuse University, and then as a software developer and in computer security. He retired in 2004 after selling his software company and the anti-spyware product he created. In retirement, David pursued many interests in addition to trail-riding, including kayaking, scuba-diving, model railroads, and wildlife photography. His wife of 38 years, Jeanne McManus of Potomac, a son and daughter-in-law, and two granddaughters survive him.



photo from David's website with Freckles

SAD LOSS OF SUZANNE ANDERSON'S HUSBAND, FRANK DIETZ

from Jacquie Cowan

Frank Dietz, Suzanne Anderson's wonderful husband, passed away recently and suddenly. Suzanne had been a long-time member of TROT, also our secretary, and was the founding member of the TROT's Mounted Search and Rescue Team. Suzanne and Frank met through this Search and Rescue Team in 1992, and they continued serving in this valuable organization. Frank also enjoyed his Harley Davidson motorcycle, clocking over 160,000 miles, replacing the motor once. He traveled Route 66 from start to end, rode to Yellowstone, to Sturgis, South Dakota, to New Orleans, to Daytona, and to the Florida Keys. Frank and Suzanne took many driving trips around North America, including to the Canadian Maritimes, New England, Arizona, Lake Superior, and Wyoming. He leaves behind his and Suzanne's beautiful farmette on which he was constantly working and improving, as well as his three feline "kids". Suzanne will scatter Frank's ashes and those of his Tennessee Walking Mare in the Grand Tetons, WY.

Donations in Frank's memory may be sent to TrotSAR Mounted Search Team c/o McGuinness, 1218 Dorsey Spring Place, Germantown, MD 20876.

[Editor's note: On the late fall Annapolis Rock rides that Suzanne kindly led for TROT members, Frank came to serve us riders wonderful hot cider.]



photo from Jacquie Cowan

Frank and Suzanne riding on the Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse Club's Manassas ride last year

GREAT PHOTO FROM TROT'S FIRST TRAIL RIDE, 1981

courtesy of Pat Oliva

In searching for old photos of Terry Ledley, Pat Oliva wonderfully came across this photo from what she said was TROT's first trail ride. It was on the WSSC's trail on the Rocky Gorge reservoir. [See the familiar Ednor Road entrance?] Thanks to original TROT members Pat Oliva, Sandy Boyd, Barbara Cannizo and Anne Bennof for striving to identify the riders. Their guesses at these people numbered below are: 1 = Sarah Donaldson, 2 = ??, 3 = Barbara Cannizo, 4 = Sandy Boyd, 5 = Pat Oliva, 6 = Jane Toal?, 7 = Karen Hecht?, 8 = ??, 9 = Anne Bennof, 10 = Frank Shell, 11 = Paul Hancock (of WSSC, who TROT worked with to open this trail to riders). It was also suggested that the rider-less horse was maybe Judy Richardson's, who maybe was the photographer. [Terry Ledley, although a founding TROT member, is unfortunately not in this photo.]

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11



photo from Pat Oliva

Continued from page 1- President's Message

founded the TROT Search and Rescue and was also a very active TROT member in the 1990s and early 2000s. Frank joined her with the Search and Rescue. Together they bought a farm, traveled the country and enjoyed a wonderful life together until his sudden passing in August. He will be missed.

On a personal note, my sweet Spotted Saddle Horse, Montana's Little Joe, that carried me for 20 years on many a trail and into the show ring, bringing home ribbons and trophies (18), whom I loved dearly, was put to rest on June 6th. He was suffering from complications due to Cushing's and I just couldn't see letting him go to the point he was miserable. He already wasn't shedding, had quit sweating and had begun having chronic laminitis. I miss him with all my heart.

I attended the quarterly meeting of the Maryland Horse Council on August 14th. A number of issues were discussed that don't deal with trails and trail preservation, but the one thing that did take a lot of time was the issue of Sunday waterfowl hunting. A survey had been sent to all Maryland Horse Council members and associations, which TROT is one. Your board went through and answered these questions, one by one. The overall result of the survey was that the majority of the MHC members were against Sunday hunting of waterfowl. The issue is how to fund the fight in Annapolis if and when this issue arises. As much as many may think, the MHC does not have unlimited funds.

I am also proud to let you know that the Maryland Horse Council included TROT for the first time in their five year strategic planning. I attended a number of meetings this spring and summer along with a number of other organizations to help mold the Maryland Horse Council for the next five years. Having been allowed to be involved of this, in part I believe, is due to all of you who filled out a survey the MHC sent out earlier this year. So, a big thank you to TROT members who helped make this happen.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING YOUR NEWSLETTER After four years of being the TROT newsletter editor, Barbara Sollner-Webb will be handing the reins over to a new editor. I want to thank Barbara for putting out an exceptional newsletter for four years. I am sure it was not always easy. Her dedication has not gone unnoticed.

Please welcome Susan Montgomery as our new newsletter editor. I know she will do her best to get you information and articles you will enjoy. She has set up an email for all submission for the newsletter. That is <TROTNewsletter@gmail.com>. This will start with the November newsletter. Please send all articles, trail rides, questions, etc. to this email address.

IMPORTANT TROT SURVEY

from TROT's Special Events Committee

The TROT Events Committee sent out surveys to find out what type of educational events/clinics would be of interest to our members. Thanks to all who already responded! If you did not get a survey either by mail or email, there is still time to have your voice heard. Simply let someone on the Events Committee know, and we will send you one. The results of the survey will be detailed in the next newsletter. [The Events Committee members are Carolann Sharpe (<blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com>), Corinne Marie Pouliquen (<parkoverlookfarm@aol.com>), and Meggan Whalen (<meggan.whalen@yahoo.com>).]

UPCOMING TRAIL WORK AND OTHER HORSE-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Reporting Your Trail Work *info from Amy Kimble, TROT's Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator*

As you ride, you likely break branches to clear the trail, and maybe you even go out sometimes specifically to do trail clearing. Please report these hours to Amy Kimble, TROT's long-term Adopt-A-Trail guru (<Amyhkimble@aol.com> or text to 301-748-8310). Give her your name, location of work, and ideally the date. Amy then relays these hours to park officials, and these hours get increased funding for the parks! **Note to Volunteer Mounted Patrols: your patrolling and lesson hours definitely count too; please report them to Amy!**

Great Trail Work/Learning Opportunity at Patuxent River State Park on Sunday, September 30 *info from Amy Kimble*

Rangers Erik Ledbetter (<erik.ledbetter@maryland.gov>, 301-924-2127), Shea Niemann <shea.niemann@maryland.gov>, and Riley Schwengel (<riley.schwengel@maryland.gov>) invite riders to help celebrate National Public Lands Day Trail with a work project at Patuxent River State Park (PRSP), Sunday September 30, 9 AM to noon. They report that significant progress has already been made on the trail system in the southern end of the park, flowing free now from Rt. 97 to Howard Chapel Rd, and they are breaking completely new ground, crossing Howard Chapel Road and heading upstream. **If you have ever wanted to learn how to create a long segment of new, sustainable trail, using all the best practices in trail construction, this is your chance!** Meet at the Nature Center and Headquarters of Patuxent River State Park, 23222 Georgia Ave. (Maryland Route 97), Brookeville, MD 20833. Bring gloves if you have them, wear sturdy shoes with closed toes, and wear clothing suitable for the weather (long pants required for safety). Bring a lunch if you'd like to have a post-project picnic to celebrate your accomplishments.

Ranger Shea Niemann further reports that at the northern end of PRSP they are still waiting on MDE approval for some creek crossings before they can begin building off Mullinix to Rt 94. Also, the new Park Ranger at Patuxent River State Park, Ranger Riley Schwengel, gave a very kind greeting to TROT members and says to expect more trail work opportunities there in the future, so please contact him (at 301-924-2127 or 443-962-0216 or <riley.schwengel@maryland.gov>).

These trails at Patuxent River State Park have been the subject of a great deal of TROT interest and enthusiasm (see TROT newsletters of July 2015 and January, March, May and September 2016), so please do come out to help the actual construction.

Volunteering in Montgomery County Parks *info from Amy Kimble*

Amy also shared that Jim Corcoran, Volunteer Services and Community Partnership Coordinator, Montgomery Parks (<www.MontgomeryParks.org>), reports how active and helpful their volunteers have been. In the last year, their Trail Rangers completed 759 hours of service, reported over 232 trees blocking trails plus numerous other conditions in need of improvement, and their Trail Crew Leaders led 17 weekend Volunteer Trail Workdays, supervising 215 volunteers completing 898 hours of service on significant existing trail renovation and new construction projects in Black Hill Regional Park, Bucklodge Forest Park, Cabin John Stream Valley Park, Muddy Branch SVP, Northwest Branch SVP, Rock Creek SVP & Seneca Creek SVP! Great citizens!

For TROT members to best join in the effort, he suggests volunteering with Montgomery Parks to improve natural surface trails in parks, through their "Volunteer Trail Ranger Program" (where dedicated volunteers inspect, perform trail corridor pruning, maintenance, and complete online trail inspection reports on assigned natural surface trail sections once every three months and after major storm events in Montgomery Parks) and/or their "Volunteer Trail Workday Program" (where volunteer group trail work projects are scheduled in the spring and fall, generally weekend mornings, and typically involve building new trail and repairing various trail tread and drainage issues). Please contact Jim (<jim.corcoran@montgomeryparks.org>, office: 301-650-4395, mobile: 301-452-5689) for more information and to sign up.

Trail Work In Carroll County *from Stephanie Brennan, Carroll County Coordinator*

Please join the trail work days organized by the Carroll County Equestrian Council:

Morgan Run: Sunday October 7 and November 11 -- Meet at the Ben Rose Lane parking lot. Bring your own tools.

For more info, contact: Carolyn Garber 410-549-5141 or <ccecofmd@yahoo.com>.

And For Our Members Near Fair Hill

There will be a trail-work party on Saturday, October 13, 2018 9 AM to noon at Fair Hill NRMA (300 Tawes Dr., Elkton MD 21921). Please RSVP to Diana Marsteller at 410-398-1246 or <diana.marsteller@maryland.gov>.

PLEASE DON'T RIDE TRAILS WHEN THE GROUND IS WET AND YOUR CAN SEE FOOTPRINTS!

RECENT TRAIL WORK AND OTHER TRAIL RIDE-RELATED ACTIVITIES

2018 Trail Work To Date *info from Amy Kimble, TROT's Adopt-A-Trail Coordinator*

Amy reports that so far in 2018, TROT members have registered 236.5 hours of trail-related volunteer activities with her! These hours include: Upper Patuxent - 73 hrs, Patapsco - 49.5 hrs; Morgan Run - 33 hrs; Gunpowder - 29.5 hrs; Liberty Watershed - 25 hrs; Severn Environmental - 9 hr; total from other parks - 17 hrs; also Montgomery County Parks meeting - 3 hrs. If any TROT members did trail work or VMP patrolling but have not yet reported it to Amy, please do so (see page 7).

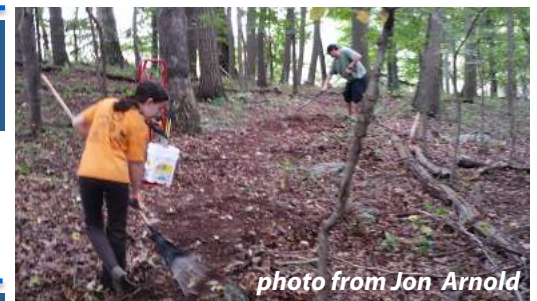
Trail Work Day July 8 in Carroll County *from Stephanie Brennan, Carroll Co Coord.*

A hard-working group of 14 volunteers (some were camera shy) worked on the trails at Morgan Run NEA on July 8th. Carolyn Garber with the Carroll County Equestrian Council was instrumental in organizing this work day. Pictured left to right: Mike Macella, Stephanie Brennan, Frank Durilla, Karen Durilla, Buddy Durilla (in the truck), Randy Hulse, Theone Andrew and Mikey Rogers. Want to be included in the next photo? Hope to see you at a future trail work day!



Trail Work Day September 16 in Carroll County *from Jon Arnold*

We had a total of five people show up for today's Gillis Falls trail work day, a mix of bikers/hikers and equestrians. Today's work was clearing a new section of trail and cleaning up trash. Peggy Miller and Tracy Lopatto are both TROT members, and we appreciate their help! The other three attendees are bikers.



FANTASTIC Trail Workshop in Baltimore Co.

Priscilla Huffman and Bianca Paterakis organized an amazing trail workshop on Saturday Sept 8, at Amazing Grace Equestrian Center, but they are too modest to let me rave about it here, so read about all that was covered in Priscilla's Baltimore County Coordinator's report, on page 15 below.

UPCOMING TROT TRAIL RIDES - plan to come on some this fall!

TROT's organized trail rides are a fun and safe way to learn new trails, meet new riding buddies, and -- probably most important for TROT's mission -- help illustrate to riders the value of preserving trails. While riding your familiar trail is certainly nice, it is most valuable and enjoyable to get acquainted with other trail systems in the area. And what better way than on a TROT ride? So plan to come on TROT rides! In fact, how about leading or co-leading a TROT ride in 2019, to show others your favorite venue? It is easy and rewarding, **and you get a free TROT shirt for leading a ride!** Contact Barbara Sollner-Webb (<bsw@jhmi.edu> or 301-604-5619) to discuss maybe leading one.

To participate in a ride, please **contact the designated ride leader to sign up, learn the start time and get directions.** Then if bad weather causes a ride to be postponed, the ride leader will be able to notify you. All riders must wear a helmet, **SHOW their current negative Coggins for the horse**, and be TROT members. Membership forms are at <<http://trot-md.org/join-now/>> and at the rides. There are also \$5 one-day memberships to encourage non-TROT riders to participate (and hopefully then join TROT).

For updated trail ride listings, please check the TROT and MarylandTrailRiders Yahoo list-serves (see page 18 to join). If you want to come on a ride but do not have a trailer, post a trailering request on these list-serves or on the TROT Facebook page or contact the ride leader, who sometimes can arrange for another participant to pick up a horse that loads and travels well. Finally, everyone is encouraged to announce our TROT rides widely, but to protect our ride program's integrity, please include all the above requirements and do not publicly announce any start time, so everyone coming must check with the ride leader.



October Rides

Friday, October 5 to Sunday, October 7 – League of Maryland Horsemen Invitational (write-up by Joyce Bell)

The League of Maryland Horsemen (LOMH) invites you to join them on October 5-7, 2018, for a fun-filled weekend of camping, food, fellowship, and riding on the beautiful trails in Patapsco State Park. The cost is \$30 for adults, \$15 for youth 6-12 years old for the 6 meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch with Saturday's dinner a potluck where the meat and drinks are provided); the camping fees are \$12/site or \$15 with electric. The shaded camp ground at LOMH has a clubhouse, electric hookups, and bathroom facilities with hot showers. The terrain in the park varies from hilly with rocks to level with soft footing. Patapsco State Park offers some of the best riding in the Mid-Atlantic region. QUESTIONS? Contact Joyce at 410-820-6002 or Valerie at 410-922-5053. More information about LOMH is available at www.leagueofmarylandhorsemen.com.

Saturday, October 6 – Fairland Park, Burtonsville, MD - Barbara Sollner-Webb (<bsw@jhmi.edu>, 301-604-5619)

[Rain date Saturday, October 20.] A lovely park where we have a yearly, most appreciated ride. We will have an all-walk and a faster group, about a two hour ride. It will be all-walk, but will have places for those of us who want to move out to trot loops and return to the group. After the ride will be a pot-luck lunch, so please bring a yummy contribution.

Thursday, October 11 through Sunday, October 14 – Fair Hill Get-Away at Fair Hill Park, northern MD -

Jacquie Cowan (<jacquiecowan@comcast.net>, 410-215-4979) TROT members are invited to join the Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse Club (CPWHC) for their 23rd year of great trail riding and camp fun. Fair Hill offers almost 6000 acres of beautiful rolling countryside and 80 miles of trails through the woods and along the Big Elk River. Their large stalls are matted and safe for the horse, with field camping around the barns and a limited number of electric hook-ups. There are real bathrooms with hot showers, and hotels close by for those who do not camp. An **obstacle clinic** will be set up Friday morning, for which pre-registration is required. Retired Ranger Joanne will offer assistance and coaching or you can just go play as you wish.

Jacquie and Gale both sent info of a tornado hitting barn #3 at Fair Hill. → Happily, all humans and equines are OK, but there will not be as many stalls available this year, so folks should send in their registration NOW. Note that DNR requires all horses to be kept in stalls – portable corrals are not allowed



Friday, October 19 – Sweet Air (Gunpowder Falls) -- Bianca Paterakis (443-340-4036, <biancavanhorn@me.com>) &

Priscilla Huffman (301-646-4422, <priscillahuffman@verizon.net>) Sweet Air is one of the most popular riding areas in Gunpowder Falls State Park with multiple trails and access from local boarding facilities. The pace of this ride will be walk with some trotting where trails permit. The length will be about two hours. There is ample trailer parking in the park field and a picnic table is available. Along the trail are some muddy spots as well as a few rocky areas so boots or shoes are recommended. The trail will go through fields, wooded areas, past farms and may have some water crossings. If the trails are wet, the park will close the area to riders so we will be confirming one or two days before. Bring your lunch and a chair if you would like to stay afterwards.

Thursday, October 25 – location TBD - Laury Lobel (<Laurylobel@verizon.net>, 301-467-7300)

Info about this "Last Thursday of the Month" TROT ride will be announced on the Yahoo list-serves and TROT's Facebook page.

Sunday, October 28 – Liberty Reservoir & Trail Ride Planning - Stephanie Brennan (<dadslicobra@yahoo.com>, 603-573-1123)

Want to be instrumental in planning the Carroll County trail rides for 2019? Come enjoy a leisure trail ride of the Liberty Reservoir followed by a planning lunch at Relatively Stable in Sykesville. Lunch will be served; but please bring a side dish to share. Don't want to ride the trails? Simply come for the planning lunch.

November Rides

Saturday, November 3 – Assateague Park, by the Atlantic - Stephanie Brennan (<dadslicobra@yahoo.com>, 603-573-1123)

[Rain date: Saturday, November 17.] Ride with the wild ponies! This ride has been on Stephanie's bucket list, and she invites you to join her. Day use horseback riding is permitted in Maryland from October 9 through May 14. An entrance fee is required for all vehicles entering the park. Sign up now to ensure your space. Stephanie will be camping there, for those who might also be interested. It is highly suggested that you check with your vet before attending this ride as many of the Assateague horses are positive for Equine Infectious Anemia, so this ride's goal is to go after a good frost, when transmission is nil.

Saturday, November 10 - Anacostia Park, College Park, MD -- John Angevine (301-937-0014)

[Rain date: Saturday, November 17.] A favorite TROT ride. This fantastic ride has many special views, including the Lincoln Cemetery and Bladensburg Waterfront. We will travel along the Anacostia River on a very nice path, traversing over and under bridges and roads, passing playgrounds and outdoor workout equipment. A great ride to give green horses experience with hikers, bikers, dogs, and strollers. All-walk, but several places are great for good long trot or canter runs, for those who want.

continued from page 9 - Upcoming trail rides - one already for scheduled for July 2019!

Saturday, July 26, 2019 – Benefit Trail Ride and Dinner in Lisbon, MD

The Equiry had tried to organize a benefit trail ride and dinner, to hopefully raise \$5,000 for the Lisbon Volunteer Fire Department to purchase an ATV to expedite their EMTs doing rescues on the Patapsco. This event was to be coordinated with TROT and a few other riding groups, but no commonly acceptable date could be arranged in 2018. So pencil in July 26 in 2019.

IMPORTANT INFO FOR FALL/WINTER TRAIL RIDES

from Amy Kimble

Montgomery Parks announces its 2018-19 park closures for hunting: <<https://www.montgomeryparks.org/montgomery-parks-announces-2018-2019-annual-deer-population-management-operations-and-seasonal-park-closures/>>. Good to record!

RECENT TROT TRAIL RIDES

You surely saw in the *Washington Post* that our area has had more than 25 more inches of rain than normal this year – and of course that (and the resultant wet ground on subsequent non-rainy days) wreaks havoc on trail rides. Thus, since the last newsletter, thirteen (13!) planned TROT rides had to be cancelled or postponed: Stephanie Brennan's Gillis Falls ride on Sunday, September 8, rain-postponed from her planned ride on Saturday July 21 (which was already rain-postponed from July 8) and her FREE Cancer Benefit Ride on Saturday September 8; Carolann Sharpe's ride in Patapsco Park from McKeldin Park to Woodstock Inn on Sunday July 22 (which already was postponed from May 26); Laury Lobel's last Thursday of the month rides on July 26, August 30 and September 27; Bianca Paterakis' and Priscilla Huffman's rides at Sweet Air in Gunpowder Falls State Park on Friday July 27 and August 31, and Saturday September 15 and 29; and Susan Ferrara's Little Bennett ride and make-up on Sunday September 9 and 16. However, Mother Nature did let us have three ride – and while not many in number, they were great in enjoyment:

Ride on WSSC's Rocky Gorge reservoir, Saturday, July 14, led and reported by Barbara Sollner-Webb

When we announced this twice rain-rescheduled ride on the "Terry Ledley trail" (officially named by WSSC 20 years ago because of the enormous number of hours Terry had already spent working on developing and maintaining this trail), Terry was fully intending to lead the all-walk group, as she had done almost every year for the last 30 plus years. But as you saw on pages 2-5, that most unfortunately could not be. However, maybe as if to try to make up, Mother Nature blessed this ride with delightful weather: sunny but comfortably cool and totally dry, a real rarity for mid-July in Maryland, and with dry ground so the horses' feet do not damage the trail. This let us riders fully enjoy this beautiful trail along WSSC's reservoir and its almost continual views of the water. WSSC's watershed manager had generously given TROT a complementary trail pass for this day. [But normally to use this venue, you need a WSSC trail pass (free for age 65 and over, otherwise \$6/day; available on their website and at their buildings.) Afterwards was a yummy pot-luck with sandwiches, copious amount of delicious fresh fruit, Karen's great homemade cookies, and cool drinks. What better way to honor Terry's legacy than by appreciating and help prune her trail?



Riders Rebekah Fontz, Frank and Karen Durilla and Diane Ayers (all riders shown except Barbara Sollner-Webb, who was the photographer) around the "Terry Ledley Equestrian Trail" sign.

WSSC's Jeff Bell, who kindly clears this trail, often carves fun messages for us → in the cut tree ends



Cancer Benefit Ride ("STEPHSTRONG") starting from Stephanie Brennan's "Relatively Stable" farm, on Sunday, July 22, led and reported by Stephanie

[Editor's note: Stephanie kindly organized this benefit trail ride to raise money for more research on an innovative cancer treatment, without which she would not be alive today.] We had a wonderful ride and a wonderful group today. It spit a few drops of rain on us, but that was it. It was a beautiful cool fall day. We had a group of seven riders, and many more that joined us for lunch. The STEPHSTRONG trail ride raised over \$300 for Dr. Sardi/Mercy Health Foundation. We had some awesome raffle prizes like a horse shoe wine rack, Lindt chocolates, Liganore wine, wine glass cozies, and more! Oh, and the food for lunch, delicious!
[another photo on next page]



cont'd from page 8 - RECENT TRAIL RIDES

continued, from STEPHSTRONG: the luncheon →

Ride at Woodstock Equestrian Park near Poolsville, on Saturday, August 25, led by Janet Buck and Marcella Morgese report by Barbara Sollner-Webb

We had a delightful ride at this swell park, from the Moritz Greenberg Equestrian Center. The weather was perfect, shockingly cool for August, yet sunny, with dry ground. Since all riders wanted to move out, we trotted and cantered as well as walked along the edges of the soybean fields, passing the historic Stone Barn. After the ride, we enjoyed a relaxing lunch.

photo from Stephanie



riders Janet Buck, Marcella Morgese, Karen and Frank Durilla, Barbara Sollner-Webb



AN IMPRESSIVE ARTIST AMONG US – JEAN COOPER

[Editor's note: Jean showed me her amazing drawings, and since I loved them, I convinced her to put some in the TROT newsletter, for all to enjoy. Jean then wrote up the information below. And her message on page 19.]



art from Jean



"Please enjoy the pictures I drew of horses. I feel I can finally draw well enough to share my art. Horses are one of the enduring joys of my life. As a child, I dreamed that I was streaking across grassy plains astride a gallant steed. My boredom-killing doodles in school usually included a horse. However, even as a child I knew I had little talent for art and so as I approached adulthood, I pushed aside my dreams and pursued a career in the sciences. Eating and having a warm bed seemed like a really good idea. Hmm. Time has been good to me and I've retired. Over the past year, I've pushed aside my practical career to pursue my dream of drawing and hopefully painting. I am teaching myself from books; that way the only

appointment I need is with myself. You betcha, my focus is on horses. I do not know where this road will take me, but I hope to continue creating, improving and sharing more of my art in the future. If you like what you see, let me know at Scotch2000scotch@gmail.com."

INTERESTING PATHS TO EXPAND ONES HORSE PASSION *from three TROT members*

Our Horses At-Risk *by Denise Parsons, President, Gaited Advocate Intervention Team, Inc.*

{Editor's note: Last winter, Gale Monahan asked Denise to write an article on horse rescue for the TROT newsletter, and although Denise is extremely busy with putting on the Horse World Expo and many other projects, she kindly sent this in.}

Our beautiful horses are dying, folks! Not to be melodramatic, but unfortunately in this country we have a major supply and demand problem right now, and our horses are caught up in it. More than 150,000 US horses of all breeds, sizes and ages are being shipped to and slaughtered in Mexico and Canada each year. I am not here to debate the right and wrong of breeding or the right and wrong of broker programs, auctions, kill buyer purchases, etc. I'm here to discuss what each of us can do to ease the problem one horse at a time and to help the horses that are in desperate need.

I have been riding and actively competing since 1973 in various disciplines including Hunter/Jumper, Dressage and Western, and became involved with Tennessee Walking Horses in 1983. It would be years before I would truly appreciate this and other gaited breeds for the athletes and treasured companions that they are. In 2003, I bought my first Tennessee Walking Horse for trail riding. The rest, as they say, is history. I fell in love with the breed and began showing and riding my horses in traditional flat-shod and versatility events. Yes, it quickly became more than one, and I fully understand now what a treasure these gaited horses are. Three years ago, as I diligently worked to support the sound horse movement, I also began to realize how many gaited horses were being put at risk at auctions and when then bought by kill buyers. I began doing rescue, one horse at a time, using my own personal funds. I soon found others with like-minded goals and we formed a national group called Gaited Advocate Intervention Team, Inc. (GAIT, Inc.). I am proud to say that I have stopped counting the number of gaited horses our group has helped get into safe new homes. GAIT, Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit corporation based in Maryland with a national presence.

Through my work with GAIT, I have learned lots of things about the horses and the people involved in rescue. First and foremost, "at risk" and "rescue" horses are just like every other horse, with the exception that their human has failed to provide for them adequately. I have stopped asking why these horses have ended up where they have. Most times there is no "reason" for it. I won't blame those humans, even though there are times that it is hard to do, but it does nothing to help the horse; and unless you walk in another person's shoes, you cannot know why decisions were made that put a horse at risk. There are many who believe that horses at auction, being sold cheap on CraigsList and other internet sites, or owned by dealers and kill buyers, must have something wrong with them. It's easier to believe this. But the truth of the matter is, many are young, sound, healthy and even well-trained horses that just ended up in the wrong hands or in bad circumstances.

Another thing I have learned: helping a horse that is at risk of going to slaughter can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. I used to think there was nothing better than walking into a show ring and getting a blue ribbon on a horse that I've trained and brought along. Well, let me tell you, the first time you meet a horse that has lost all hope, is frightened and hungry and you look into those eyes, they look back and they know they are safe, you watch them transform and bloom, NOTHING will ever give you a greater satisfaction of accomplishment than that moment when that horse knows everything will be OK.

Yes, there is risk, but isn't there risk with any horse you get? While the odds that you will find the next World Grand Champion in a kill pen are not great, many have read the story of famed jumper, Snowman. But be honest, how many of us actually plan on campaigning our horses to the top levels of competition anyway? By using an experienced eye, or with the help of an experienced horseperson, odds are very good that you will find a new best friend and amazing riding companion among those "at risk" horses, one capable of doing just about anything you want to do.

Not everyone has the experience or the financial ability to be a successful horse rescuer. It's not... *[continued on next page]*



(1) Christa, an 8 yo gaited mare who came to GAIT, Inc. from a kill buyer in December. She is available for adoption and currently fit and competing in endurance. (2) Ruby, a 16 yo gaited mare who came to GAIT, Inc. from a kill buyer, an unbroke broodmare. Now with almost two years of riding experience under her belt she is available for adoption. (3) Maximus. This photo, taken on intake, shows he was a healthy, fat horse. The USDA shipping tag on the shoulder of this unbroke 4 yo gelding (the green oval tag) is from when he came right out of a kill pen already on the manifest to ship to slaughter. He has since received training from GAIT, Inc. and has been happily adopted.

easy to go to auctions or find appropriate horses at broker programs; it can be very costly beyond the initial purchase price and can be a very emotional experience. The truth is, most times it is easier to buy a horse from a private owner and often for much less than what auction, kill pen or broker program horses ultimately cost after shipping, quarantine and possible medical bills. But there are more ways to help at risk horses if the personal risk and emotional cost are too high to bear. There are quality rescue programs all over the country. These folks choose at-risk horses that they feel will be adoptable. They bring them home and do the hard work of rehabilitation. Even young, healthy horses often get sick from the stress and exposure to diseases at auctions and sales. The good rescue gets them healthy and evaluates the horses. They ride them to determine suitability and some will provide additional training when needed. A good rescue will allow potential adopters to do pre-purchase exams and some even offer trials before adoption is considered complete. Although you may not be taking a horse that is directly "at risk", you are actually helping two horses when you adopt from a rescue, the one who gets a great new home and the one that the rescue will then have room to take into its program.

If you do have the knowledge and financial ability to risk taking an at-risk horse from auction, broker program or kill pen, but don't know where to start, there are folks that will help you through the process. Facebook and other internet sites are a great resource, don't be afraid to ask local rescues that regularly go to auctions for help. Many realize the more people that are willing to take that risk, the more horses will be saved. Bringing a horse back from neglect, getting it out of the slaughter pipeline or keeping it from the hands of a kill buyer in the first place can be extremely rewarding emotionally.

Not ready for a new horse yourself? There are still many ways you can help; some cost nothing but time. You can watch online and social media sites and share horses that are at risk with others. I have gotten dozens of horses homed just by getting the word out to other people and sharing my experience with others. Want to be more hands-on? Most rescues are desperate for volunteers; call around and offer help when you can. Have plenty of extra room and even extra time, but don't want to commit to a lifetime of care for a new horse? Consider fostering for a rescue. By fostering, you provide daily care and feeding, the rescue is usually responsible for medical care and routine maintenance items. Your costs are tax deductible and you get to help during the homing process. You don't even need to offer physical help with the care of horses. Most rescues are in great need of help behind the scenes with fund raising, computer work and more. There's always an endless need for donations and supplies, which to registered 501c3 non profits are tax deductible. Every single dollar, regardless of the size of the donation, can make a huge difference when combined with contributions of others. But please do research where your money is going. There unfortunately are many that are taking advantage of well meaning folks and may not be putting money to the best use for the horses.

Over the past five years, I have had the honor of meeting some of the kindest and best horses of my life through the work I'm doing in rescue, and I've been entrenched in the horse industry for over 40 years. I can honestly say that I am the one that has benefitted most from helping these horses that I and all the other people who these throw-away horses have touched. There are days when I firmly believe that I and the other humans doing this work are the ones being rescued by the horses, not the other way around. Won't you consider opening your heart to a new companion through rescue?

For more information on Gaited Advocate Intervention Team, Inc. visit us at www.gaitrrr.org or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/GAITRRR/> to talk with us about adopting one of our great gaited horses. Donations can be sent to [PayPal.me/GaitInc](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.gaitrrr.org) or mailed to GAIT, Inc, 14515 Chrisman Hill Dr., Boyds, MD 20841. Email us at info@gaitrrr.org for more information on how you can be involved.

Working Equitation and Polocross

by Jean Cooper

Until this past August I had never heard of the sport "Working Equitation" and I had never seen Polocross played. These are two very different sports. Working Equitation is mostly judged on an individual level (except when live cattle are included in a team event) and competitors perform consecutively, whereas with Polocross opposing teams compete to gain points. Despite obvious differences, the sports have much in common. Understanding the sports is key to seeing commonality.

Working Equitation is a combination of dressage, obstacles, and cattle wrangling. Per our instructor, Jeanne Bond, Working Equitation tests are ridden at progressively advanced levels. The objective is to show both the rider's and horse's capacity for calmness, precision, and style under pressure. The judging coincides with ease of handling and speed requirements. Cattle are optional in competition. Obstacles are standardized for competition and simulate the difficulties encountered by a horse and rider working cattle. Some types of tests during competition are timed, hence much galloping between closely spaced obstacles which must then be mastered in a specific, highly precise manner which sometimes demands full speed.

Polocross is Lacrosse on horseback, which looks like Quidditch except that Polocross is played on horses rather than brooms and the ball lacks wings. For starters, the goal zone between the posts goes from the ground to infinity in both Quidditch and Polocross. And yes, there is a lot of dodging, diving, and dashing involved in Quidditch and Polocross. But I digress.

Working Equitation and Polocross are similar because both require exquisite communication between horse and rider. Both sports demand that the horse and rider communicate a shared goal, and move in multiple directions quickly while maintaining balance even when a member of the horse/rider team is stretching to snag a far flung ball while ... *[continued on next page]*

continued from page 13 -- Working Equitation

reversing direction or spearing a tiny ring with a telephone pole at full gallop. Most of the communication happens with the rider's seat and legs rather than reins. Many transitions between halt, gallop, canter, trot, and walk must be rapidly and smoothly executed in both sports. Success dictates that the horse is a willing partner, both in understanding and in anticipating what needs to be done. At the advanced level, two hand reining is not an option. Reining is one handed because operating obstacles such as moving a gate or wielding a Lacrosse-like stick occupies the non-reining hand. The reining hand cannot be switched during play. Any type of horse can compete, and human age/gender competitors are not segregated. Level of competition depends on horse/rider skill, knowledge, and ability, although some segregation occurs at international levels.

Working Equitation and Polocross are fun alternatives to experience horse adventures and challenge horsemanship in ways similar to better known venues such as dressage or jump shows. Events involving both sports are held in Maryland. If this brief summary of my single encounters has piqued your interest, check out the internet for Working Equitation or Polocross. Hope to see you at one or more events, as I plan to start working on one or both in the near future.

VIRTUAL OBSTACLE SHOWS

from Leigh Wintz

The small farm in Dunkirk, Maryland where I board my two horses has been having a lot of fun with Virtual Obstacle Shows (VOS). Yes, the obstacles are really there. You create them according to a pattern provided on "show day". You then have seven days to submit a video of you and your horse. [It must be one continuous feed, under 3 minutes, which you then mount on your personal YouTube channel]. You "compete" with others in the same division when the show judge (1 judge per division per show) reviews all the videos. The horse and rider combination that scores the highest will win. It pays to have a well-groomed horse and rider but you don't need any special equipment or outfits. Western or English allowed; you are judged on proper use of the tack and riding style you adopt.

Virtual Obstacle Shows (VOS) were created as a way for riders to compete with their horses from their home environment. It's very affordable and anyone can compete. Almost any facility is suitable. Obstacles can be made with items around your barn or picked up from local lumber stores. We have a very sandy, sloping, open arena but have been able to create all the patterns without a lot of effort. Even though I have a trailer and like going to real shows, VOS gives me the opportunity to practice 5 or 6 maneuvers in a focused way. There are three divisions:

-- Novice is for the horse or rider that is not ready for more advanced maneuvers and as such the pattern requires fewer moves. My TWH, Target, is a wonderful trail horse but doing prescribed obstacles where we are both given scores gives us a chance to work on our partnership. I find it very helpful to review the videos, not only to make sure I am using consistent cues but to observe my own horsemanship. At age 67, I find that my body is not always doing exactly what my brain tells it to do! That my horse understands anyway is very rewarding.

-- Advanced is for those ready to attempt the finer skills of horsemanship and requires more difficult maneuvers with judges expecting a higher level of horsemanship.

-- In hand is for any horse shown in a halter without a rider. This has been perfect for my non-ridden horse, Hank, a rescue who was retired after bone scans revealed kissing spines (and I suffered five broken vertebrae, internal bleeding and a concussion). It gives us something to do in addition to our walks together. We were both bored with lounging or round pen work. And doing the course in hand before mounting my Target has been most helpful in communicating what I am about to ask him to do.

Typically, I enter both horses in the in-hand division and Target in the novice division. It's only \$15 to enter and \$10 for each additional division. My riding partner and I take turns playing videographer. My husband has also played videographer for me, and I really felt like the accomplished horseman taking Hank through the in-hand course. He rides as well, but prefers his trail riding a little less challenging. You don't have to compete. We leave the pattern set up for the week and others at the barn have enjoyed working their horses over the course. You can also obtain old patterns from VOS, submit a video and have it judged without the deadline for submission or competing with others. To join or find out more, visit their website at www.virtualobstacleshows.com or check them out on Facebook.



photo from Leigh

VALUABLE INFO IN THE SEPTEMBER EQUIERY (<equiery.com>)

Go to the September issue of the Equiery, at equiery.com, to read about the great progress with METS (the program to help temporarily needy horses that was reported on in the July TROT newsletter; pages 7 and 9), recent new cases of EIA (page 13) and Potomac Horse Fever (page 14), a new invasive nasty tick species (page 18), and the upcoming Eventing Championships at Fair Hill, October 18-12 – which are tremendously much fun to go to and watch (page 21).

INSULIN RESISTANCE IN MY HORSE

from Pat Merson

[Editor's note: TROT is not endorsing the vet or products described below, but wanted to pass on Pat's approach under which her horse was helped when she feels a muzzle and low-NCS feed alone would not succeed.]

I had Image, an Arabian gelding, for about eight years when I found out he was insulin resistant. He was always on the chunky side with a crest in his neck, but had never been lame, although my farrier warned me he could be prone to founder. Sure enough, to my horror, he did founder. I called my vet, who suggested a blood test, and indeed Image was insulin resistant. Two years ago, I found out about Dr. Frank Reilly DVM, who has come up with a product that contains natural herbs, magnesium, and vitamin E in a good tasting powder. Since Image didn't like the powder on his pelleted feed Dr. Reilly suggested that I put sugar-free maple syrup on the feed. Image wears a muzzle when the grass is high in sugar and when in his paddock. Image is now sleek, with no excess fat or a crest. So if your horse has chronic sore feet, laminitis, elevated insulin levels, or is an easy keeper, you might want to have their insulin levels checked. I also really like the muzzles from <https://shop.harmanyequine.com/product-category/harmany-muzzles>, shown at the right (photo from this website).



COUNTY/AREA COORDINATOR REPORTS

Baltimore County

from Priscilla Huffman, Baltimore County Co-Coordinator

Nine trail riders braved a downpour and met at the beautiful Amazing Grace Equestrian Center in Parkton on Saturday, Sept. 8th to cover three topics: 1- recent trail news from DNR, 2- some tips on handling trail obstacles, and 3- favorite trail gear.

1- Andrea Townsley-Sapp, Park Services Associate Lead for Gunpowder Falls State Park (GFSP), had several items of good news:

- a) The Sweet Air trails, which are a local favorite for riders, will be re-colored and re-blazed, and new maps will be created.
- b) The focus for park maintenance and Maryland Conservation Corps in the next few years will be the Hereford Region of GFSP. This work will include re-routing of several sections of the Gunpowder North and South trails, as these trails border the river and can get very wet; currently they are heavily used by hikers but many parts are inaccessible for horses.
- c) Three new long-term contractual staff have been hired for this project (funded by Program Open Space money, park entrance fees, and SHA grants); they will do solely trail work.
- d) Also using AmeriCorp helpers, they hope to in re-route, rejuvenate and/or re-mark 35 miles of trail by next summer.
- e) They will also have a "Volunteer Helpers" program that is somewhat like a volunteer mounted patrol-lite in not requiring the 40 hours of dedicated service per year. Contact Andrea at andrea.townsley-sapp@maryland.gov for information.

2- Sandy Weinreich, owner and trainer for Amazing Grace Equestrian Center, gave an excellent mounted demonstration on how to handle trail obstacles. A key aspect of this "trail desensitizing" is to get your horse to respect you. Sandy emphasized that one of the most important techniques you can teach your horse is the one-rein stop (somewhat related to the old "pulley-rein" but to be done at a walk). She also emphasized the importance of not letting your horse stop in front of a scary object but to keep him circling by it calmly at ever-decreasing distances. The reward he receives for getting near (ideally touching his nose to the monster) is to let him walk calmly (not run) away from this object.

Sandy's credentials are impressive, with over 33 years in the equine industry. She is a Certified Trainer through the US Hunter Jumper Association and a nationally recognized judge and clinician For AQHA and five other breed organizations.

3- Our group's trail gear discussion was most valuable. Suggestions for best tools and provisions to carry on horseback on the trails included a handy folding saw that can fit in a saddle pack (there was a recommendation for saws by Corona) and a pruner that fits well in your hand, in a case on the saddle and maybe with a wrist-strap that you attach to avoid losing it if dropped. Very important is to take along Benadryl pills and cream, in case someone get stung by "ground bees" (really yellow jackets; of course, first confirm that you are not allergic to Benadryl) and maybe an Epi-Pen. Both pommel and cantle saddle packs are popular, as are the packs that hang down from the saddle behind your legs. Recommendations for horse boots for the trails included Cavallo (the kind with the Velcro closing in front) and EasyBoot gloves; some even loved the traditional EasyBoot. Most popular web sites for ordering trail gear: <http://www.taylorredtack.com>, <https://www.windridertack.com>, <https://www.ridingwarehouse.com>, and <https://www.thedistancedepot.com>. The app "EasyTrails" was recommended for easily GPS'ing your ride on your phone. And then please submit your GPS map to TROT's trail mapping section of put website (send to shadowsrider@yahoo.com).

Anne Arundel County

info from Jacquie Cowan, Anne Arundel County Coordinator

Please appreciate the importance of talking with candidates for elected office from your area as well as attending Anne Arundel County's "Small Area Planning Meetings," both ways to express your caring for trails. Please see the article by Susan Gray on TROT's historical advocacy role (page 3-4 above) to be reminded of how important such advocacy efforts can be for trails. These Small Area Planning Meetings are important because they were developed by area citizens ... [continued on next page]

continued from page 14 -- Anne Arundel County Coordinator's Report

working with county officials to plan upcoming area improvement. I remember on my Crownsville area plan we said we really did not want growth and the "improvements" that come with it – we didn't even want the disturbance of having our road worked on. And interestingly, the County seems to have abandoned many facets of those growth plans. Attending the meetings gives residents a chance to meet and interact with their community and is a perfect time to propose trail opportunities. Because this month's newsletter is late, most of these meetings have already passed; however, here are the remaining ones:

- Crownsville: Monday, Oct. 1st 6-8 pm -- Herald Harbor Community Center 390 Hall Rd, Crownsville, MD
- Deale/ShadySide: Wednesday, Oct. 3rd 6-8 pm -- Deale Community Library 5940 Deale Churchton Rd, Deale, MD

If you did not get to your small area meeting, here is the link to view your Small Area Plan: <https://www.aacounty.org/departments/planning-and-zoning/long-range-planning/small-area-planning/index.html>.

Carroll County

info from Stephanie Brennan, Carroll County Coordinator

[Editors note: This report is in addition to all the info already provided by Stephanie on pages 7,8,9,10,11.] Well, I guess we can say that we aren't in a drought year. Thanks to the rain, both our Gillis Falls trail ride regular date and rain date had to be cancelled. When the weather turns around, I will plan on getting this ride rescheduled for us. This is the last location of the Carroll County horse trails tour. If you have come to every trail ride in Carroll County thus far (Liberty Reservoir, Morgan Run, Piney Run, and Union Mills) you have almost completed all the venues.

I would really like to encourage all of you to attend the Liberty Reservoir trail ride and 2019 Planning Party on October 28 (see page 9). It will be an enjoyable, leisurely time dreaming up what fun we can have in 2019. Please note that a section of the Union Mills trail from the John Owings Road parking lot is closed as well as a section of trail within the Liberty Reservoir. For more information, such as maps and photos, please see the Carroll County TROT's monthly email.

Howard County info from Gale Monahan

Gale reports that Howard County Fairgrounds are planning to close their riding arenas due to lack of use.

Laurel/Burtonsville area

from Barbara Sollner-Webb, this area coordinator

On August 25th, we held a very nice and moving get together/pot-luck dinner to honor Terry Ledley (see pages 2-5 above), my neighbor and wonderful friend who had passed away exactly one month earlier. In addition to enjoying each others' company



and sharing memories of Terry and her amazing trail advocacy, many of us walked out to the iconic "Terry Ledley Equestrian Trail" sign at the the start of the trail, which WSSC had dedicated to her 20 years ago.

shown (l to r) around the "Terry Ledley Equestrian Trail" sign: Debby Poole, Nancy Osgood, Judy Thacher, Mary Prowell, Maria Schwartz, Susan Riley, John Railey, Kyle (Jossi) Gafney, Laury Lobel, John Dow, Priscilla Huffman, Ingrid Gentry, Jean Cooper, Donata Dow, Jeff Cooper, Jenn Poole, Barbara Sollner-Webb; not shown but attending the event: Denis Webb, Dick Huffman, Cathy Diamond, Debbie Wagner, Jacki Edens, Janet MacNab, Ron MacNab, Mike Gafney, Patty Sobel, Rhona Lawrence and Junior Lawrence.

Washington County info – possible horse vacation

from Susan Gray and Barbara Sollner-Webb

[This is not an endorsement from TROT. but only personal comments from two riders who hope they might interest others.]

Are there others like us who also would like to a nice place to go to ride for a few days with one's horse and might prefer more human creature comforts than a pup-tent but do have a live-in horse trailer? Since *Happy Hills* closed, we did not know such a place in this area, so were curious about Valley Meadow Farm's new "Bed and Barn" near Hancock, MD. After a fun day tubing near there on the Potomac, we decided to check it out in person. It indeed seems a very attractive place to go for a few days with friends and horses. There are pretty trails, access to loads more state park land, real nice stalls and paddocks nearly completed, and a charming old farmhouse with a lovely porch, nice living room with gas stove for cool nights, and four attractive bedrooms with double beds. Also extremely nice proprietors. Since you rent the whole farmhouse, it might be a little steep for one or two people, but if you go with a number of folks, it could be a very reasonably-priced horse mini-vacation. [See ad on page 18 and more info in the last newsletter; and photos on the next page.] If anyone knows other such places in the MD/VA area or nearby WV/PA/DE, please let us know (send to susan@campSusan.com or bsw@jhmi.edu).



SUMMARIES OF TROT BOARD MEETINGS

August 1, 2018 TROT Board meeting

summarized from minutes of Leah Mack

Attendees: Carol Ann Sharpe, Laury Lobel, Gale Monahan, Pat Oliva, Susan Montgomery, Brianna Schwartz, Fritzi Grow, Corinne Pouliquen, Barbara Sollner-Webb, Susan Gray, Dana Grabiner, Leah Mack. It was at the home of Pat Oliva.

- Website Update: Susan Montgomery is working so people can pay, register and update their information on TROT's website.
- Correction to earlier minutes: Corinne stated that state law only requires a Coggins for buying or selling a horse, a show, an event/gathering, or returning from out of state. The TROT board voted to require ride leaders to always record the actual Coggins number and date on the Coggins, not just whether the owner has a Coggins. Also, Little Bennett's "Great Outdoors" event in will not be held.
- Treasurer's Report and Membership Report were presented. Trail rides report: Barbara noted that all the rain has made trails soggy and many rides have had to be cancelled. Newsletter: Corinne gave a trail etiquette article for the next newsletter. Barbara requested photos of Terry Ledley for a tribute article. TROT needs a new secretary.
- County Reports and Events Committee: see above.
- Annual Dinner: Will be run by the events committee and is scheduled for February 16th, 2019.
- For the MD Horse Council Survey, the board again agreed to oppose expansion of any Sunday hunting, including waterfowl.
- Next meeting 9/5 at Gale's house.

September 5, 2018 TROT Board meeting

from Dana Grabiner

Attendees: Gale Monahan, Deneen Martin, Elisa Mosley, Jean Cooper, Laurel Lobel, Pat Oliva, Priscilla Huffman, Meggan Whelan, Jack Monahan, Susan Montgomery, Carolann Sharpe, Dick Huffman, Dana Grabiner, Barbara Sollner-Webb (by phone), Elliott Romero. It was at the home of Gale Monahan.

- New membership chair Elisa Mosley reported that annual member attrition rates are down by more than 50%.
- Elisa and Susan Montgomery will confer securing TROT's membership list.
- Susan has set up a dedicated email address <TROTnewsletter@gmail.com> for contributors to future newsletters. She will draft a policy for the newsletter's exclusion of non-trail related political topics. TROT is very sensitive to being perceived as partisan.
- New logowear coordinator Carolann Sharpe proposed to sell TROT logowear on the website and again at the annual dinner.
- Meggan Whelan presented preliminary results of the Events Committee's survey of TROT membership; final report to come.
- A motion passed to permit TROT-SAR (Search and Rescue), to have a "booth" at TROT's annual dinner, as requested.
- Gale Monahan encouraged members to let MHC know their views on whether a great deal of MHC's limited resources should be devoted to fighting expansion of Sunday waterfowl hunting
- Discussed the growing affordability of technology such as GoPro cameras and VR goggles, so TROT's Mhib grant dollars can go farther than anticipated in equipping TROT to produce "you are there," virtual trail-riding experiences, to promote trail-riding to attendees at public events. Carolann Sharpe and Dana Grabiner will make a recommendation to the board.
- Next meeting: Wednesday October 3 at Gale Monahan's house; contact her for directions.

Get your TROT license plates

from Karen Durilla, TROT License Plate Guru

HAY, stop horsing around and get serious about putting in an application for a TROT license plate for your car or truck. For a one-time fee of \$25, you can have a TROT license plate forever! The Department of Motor Vehicles will transfer the information and registration fees from your current license plate over to your new TROT license plate. What better way to show you enthusiasm for horses and educate the public about TROT! Please contact me at <PonyExpressMessenger@gmail.com> or call me on (301) 703-4087 and I will help you with the application process.



photo from Karen

FOR A LISTING OF TROT'S "TRAIL GUIDES", SEE THE JULY NEWSLETTER

UP-TO-DATE INFO ON TROT ACTIVITIES

TROT Website: <www.trot-md.org>

TROT Newsletter archives: <www.trot-md.org/newsletter>

Barbara Sollner-Webb, Newsletter Coordinator
(<bsw@jhmi.edu>, 301-604-5619)

Maryland Trail Riders Yahoo group (and info to join):

<<https://groups.yahoo.com/group/MarylandTrailRiders/info>>

TROT Yahoo group (and info to join):

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

Facebook page -- TROT Trail Riders of Today

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

WHO'S WHO IN TROT

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL	PHONE
President	Gale Monahan	gmtwh3@gmail.com	301-854-3852
Vice President	Deneen Martin	deneenmartin7@msn.com	301-467-5335
Secretary	(VACANT)		
Treasurer	Fritzi Grow	FGrow77@gmail.com	
Additional Board members	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	301-604-5619
	Brieanah Schwartz	bvs.sbc@gmail.com	
	Dana Grabiner	grabiner1@aol.com	202-412-7548
	Jean Cooper	scotch2000scotch@gmail.com	301-570-2806
	Laury Lobel	laurylobel@verizon.net	
	Leah Mack	1ecofarmer@gmail.com	
Membership Chair	Pat Oliva	patotiqger@gmail.com	410-489-738
Newsletter-outgoing	Elisa Moseley	trotmembership@yahoo.com	
Newsletter-incoming	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	301-604-5619
Trail Rides	Susan Montgomery	shadowsrider@yahoo.com	410-445-3138
Adopt A Trail	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	301-604-5619
Webmaster; mapping	Amy Kimble	amyhkimble@aol.com	301-748-8310
	Susan Montgomery	shadowsrider@yahoo.com	410-445-3138
COUNTY AND AREA COORDINATORS			410-923-6157
Anne Arundel	Jacquie Cowan	jacquiecowan@comcast.net	410-215-4979
Baltimore	Priscilla Huffman	priscillahuffman@verizon.net	301-646-4422
	& Bianca Paterakis	biancavanhorn@me.com	443-340-4036
Carroll	Stephanie Brennan	dadslilcobra@yahoo.com	603-573-1123
Cecil	Jeanne Bond	halcyonfarm@gmail.com	
Frederick	Leah Mack	1ecofarmer@gmail.com	
Howard	Pat Oliva	patolivatiqger@aol.com	410-489-7380
	& Susan Montgomery	shadowsrider@yahoo.com	410-445-3138
Laurel/Burtonsville	Barbara Sollner-Webb	bsw@jhmi.edu	301-604-5619
Montgomery	Rita Beck	rita.beck@verizon.net	
	& Brieanah Schwartz	bvs.sbc@gmail.com	
Talbot	Joyce Bell	wbell2@washcoll.edu	410-820-6002

Please, TROT members in Prince George's County and other counties that are not listed, consider volunteering as TROT's coordinator from your county or from some subset that you feel comfortable getting more involved with!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

from *Elisa Moseley*

Name	County (in MD unless noted)
Charlie Moore	Shenandoah County, VA
Christina & Tom Hall	Carroll
Alison Carder	Howard
Cathy & Steve Johnson	Carroll
Alexis Simmont Leonard	Montgomery
Nan Cronk-Walker	Frederick

Welcome, and we hope you enjoy TROT!

VERY HELPFUL TRAIL GUIDE

from *Priscilla Huffman*

Remember to make use of MHI's helpful trail riding brochure: <http://mda.maryland.gov/horseboard/Pages/Horse_board.aspx>.

PLACING A CLASSIFIED AD

TROT Members can place one 100-word or business card-size ad in each issue of the newsletter **FOR FREE!** What a great deal! You need to notify the editor if you want it to run again. TROT members wanting to run a larger ad get that \$6 off its rate (listed below).

Ad rates for non-members and larger ads:

100 words	\$6 (each additional word - \$0.10)
Business Card	\$6
1/2 page ad	\$40
1/4 page ad	\$25
Full page ad	\$75

[more classifieds on the next page]

Horse Trailer For Sale

from *Carol Hysong*

2011 Sundowner all-aluminum "Sunlite 777" 2-horse with dressing room bumper-pull. Used only four times. \$11,000. 301-384-2527

MORE CLASSIFIED ADS

Farm Sitter Wanted *from Stephanie Brennan*

Looking for a responsible farm sitter who has experience with horses, chickens, dogs, cats, and fish. Occasional work starting in October, and must be willing to stay overnight at the farm in Sykesville. Vet tech or applicable experience a plus. This is a perfect job for a college or grad student. Please send resume and references to <dadslilcobra@yahoo.com>.

Horse and Pet Original Art Portraits in Acrylic Paint *from Jean Cooper*

Wouldn't a portrait make a wonderful and unique holiday gift for the horse or pet lover in your family or your friends? Contact Jean Cooper at <Scotch2000scotch@gmail.com>.

6x8 inch picture \$60, optional framed to 8x10 inch \$75

8x10 inch picture \$85, optional framed to 11x14 inch \$90

Up to 4 clear photographs of the subject will need to be sent electronically. The artist reserves the right to choose which of the submitted photographs to paint although the artist will communicate with the submitter to work through specifics. Time constraints may limit the number of painting that can be completed by the holidays, so it is best to plan on a month lead time to receive a painting. See page 11 for examples.

Gaited Lessons with Jacquie Cowan

Find Your Pleasure Gait with Jacquie Cowan, specializing in softly gaited horses for trail and show. I also help build your confidence and trail skills. Contact Jacquie at <jacquiecowan@comcast.net> or 410-923-6157.

Organically-Raised Farm Products

from Leah Mack



FOR SALE: 100% grass fed beef

(ground beef \$6.50/lb, roasts and stew cubes \$8/lb, steak \$12/lb) and pastured, soy-free eggs (\$6/doz).

Organic practices. Pick up at my farm in Libertytown, MD or I can bring to a TROT ride or board meeting.

Leah Mack <1ecofarmer@gmail.com>, grazydays.com

Horse Help Needed *from Janet Young (wife of Harold Goldstein, long-time TROT webmaster)*

We are looking for one (or possibly two people - alternate weeks) to feed two horses in the evening. Includes grain, meds for one horse, water, hay, clean up manure/wet bedding in barn and adjacent small pasture. Takes about 1 hour. Highland MD. Email for questions to <Janet@goldray.com>.

Horse Boarding *from Diane Delmar*

Millhaven, our beautiful, primarily adult full-board farm has stalls available. We are close to Olney, Rockville, G-burg. Farm backs to protected parkland and Ag History Farm Park. Our home is over the barn & staff lives on the farm, so we can provide really personalized, 24/7 care to horses. Outdoor arena and no-dust indoor connects directly to barn — great in foul weather! Bathroom and tack rooms heated in winter. See our website (<www.millhavenhorsefarm.com>) and the 5-star reviews on our Facebook page (<<https://www.facebook.com/MillhavenHorseFarm>>). Contact Diane at 301/963-0630 or <ddelmar@mindspring.com>.

Vacation With Your Horse At Valley Meadow Farms "Bed & Barn" In Western Maryland *from Karla Graul*

Pack your pajamas & saddles and trailer in your horses for a private countryside getaway on 400+ acres and trails in the beautiful Appalachian Mountains at Sideling Hill. Enjoy a 4 bedroom fully furnished, linens provided farmhouse with barn stable and paddock options just off the front porch. 2 night minimum. Property is family owned and cared for by TROT members. Information at <valleymeadowfarms.com> or Facebook and Instagram @valleymeadowfarms. Reservations 301-678-5023.

Horse for Lease *from Kathy Macoughtry*

Rocky Mountain mare, 7 years old, for lease in West Laurel for the right rider. Please call Kathy at 301-776-8954 or email <wmaco@comcast.net> for information.

Horse Blanket Wash/Repair *from Roxy Baldwin (Sweet Rock Stables, A Maryland Horse Industry Horse Discover Center, Manchester MD)*

Free pick-up/delivery available for six or more.

Price sheet & more info <Roxy@SweetRockStables.com> or 410 374 3870.

SPECIAL THANKS!!!

Big thanks to the swell folks who contributed those great articles and other information to the newsletter! Readers highly appreciate these contributions by TROT members!

ENORMOUS appreciation for most helpful editing of the draft newsletter by Judy Thacher, Elisa Moseley, Dana Grabiner, Kathy Lipton, Karla Graul, and Denis Webb. Also big thanks to Debbie Wagner, Gale Monahan, Stephanie Brennan, Karen Durilla, Priscilla Huffman and Laury Lobel for more edits. You guys are wonderful! I have loved doing the newsletter!



TRAIL RIDERS OF TODAY

TROT Membership

PO Box 506

Highland, MD 20777

Inside this issue:

- Tributes to Terry Ledley, David Stang, and Frank Dietz
- Thank you, Jean McKay, and TROT Need a New Secretary
- President's Message
- Farewell from the Outgoing Newsletter Editor
- Historic Photo from TROT's First Trail Ride
- Reminder about TROT's Special Events Survey
- Upcoming and Recent Trail Work and TROT Trail Rides
- Montgomery County Park's Upcoming Closures for Hunting
- An Impressive Artist – Jean Cooper
- Saving At-Risk Horses
- Working Equitation & Polocross
- Virtual Obstacle Shows
- Insulin Resistance
- County and Area Reports
- Board Meeting Summaries
- And Lots More