ROCKY GORGE TRAIL WORK DAY

This November 9th trail work day is in honor of Terry Ledley. Terry was a founding member of TROT, and was on the board at the time of her passing. See page 7 for specifics and to sign up.

BECOME A BOARD MEMBER

It is that time of year again! We are looking for energetic, trail loving, forward thinking individuals to steer TROT into the coming years. Your duties for the two year term would include once a month meetings on the first Wednesday of every month and voting to determine the future of TROT. Please submit your name and contact information to be considered as a 2020 TROT board member. Nominations to the board can be emailed to our President Fritzi Grow, fgrow77@gmail.com. The nine (9) current board of directors will be on the nominating committee and determine the board members for 2020. The cut off for acceptance of nominations from current TROT members is thirty (30) days before the annual meeting.

EXTREME MOUNTAIN TRAIL CLINIC-THIS MONTH!

Double C Farm, LLC is Maryland’s first IMTCA certified course. This will be an instructor-led event with a maximum of eight riders per session. Riding the obstacle course helps a horse and rider build a deeper partnership, cultivate trust, respect, and confidence, increase flexibility and agility, and develop better communication skills.

The obstacles include Balance Beams, Rocks, Cross Bucks, Pond, Bridges, Teeter Totter, Texas Two Step, Cake Box, Water Box, and more.

We are hoping for sunny skies...but remember, this event is “rain or shine” so be sure to pack accordingly.

Where: Double C Farm, 16011 Comus Rd, Clarksburg, MD
When: September 29, 2019
Time: 9:30AM-12:30PM or 1:30PM-4:30PM
Rider Cost: $215 (members), $235 (non-members)
Auditor Cost: $20 (members), $40 (non-members)

You can register online via Eventbrite.
To register online as an auditor, go to https://bit.ly/2vXJXt2.
To register as a rider, go to https://bit.ly/2HkkTBK.

If you have any questions or you would like the registration form to complete and mail in, then send an email to TROTEvents@gmail.com. Completed registration and payment must be received by September 22nd.
HORSE POEMS, Flora T. Higgins

June is Horse Month in New Jersey and the horse is the State Animal of New Jersey. In June 2020, my fellow poet, Evelyn Hampton and I will present a poetry reading and a slide show at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan, New Jersey. We have reviewed hundreds of poems about horses and chosen many that are very moving, varied, and well-suited to read to a listening audience. We will invite the public to share their favorite poems about horses. Perhaps you or someone you know would recommend a poem to include at the reading. If so, please respond to my email address by November 1, 2019.

Flora T. Higgins, Colts Neck, NJ
florathiggins@optonline.net

TIPS AND TRICKS, Debby Poole

I've had horses since 1968 and keeping tubs and buckets clean can be a hassle. I really don't like to throw out good water when it just has a little bit of grass or leaves floating in it. I also have an aged mare that has no teeth so she leaves tons of gunk in her water that makes it hard to drain. About 5 years ago I got some dollar store nets that I use now to clean the tubs of debris without having to dump all the water out. A great time and water saver. Makes it clean enough for kids to bathe in!

TROT LICENSE PLATES, Karen Durilla

In 2011, TROT started their license plate program. Since then, a total of 50 TROT license plates have been issued. Plates 0051-0100 are currently being stamped; so, think about submitting 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. – Karen Durilla

NEXT GENERATION OF TRAIL RIDERS, Leah Mack

Young trail rider, Hope Faris, daughter of Leah Mack, and a friend at a pony club fund raiser, parked cars at Loch Muy for a recent FEI combined training competition.

Horses lend us the wings we lack.
This is a big weekend for non-profit TEC -- which serves many counties of the Eastern Shore -- and honors TEC's founder, Cindy Berkey. This camping weekend is a major source of funding which pays for the maintenance of TEC's clubhouse and grounds, and it is full of fun. Whether you follow the marked trails along the beautiful Tuckahoe River or join a mentored group, you will love the trails, the delicious food, and the campground. It's a bargain at $60 (or $45 for TEC members), which includes two nights of camping, two dinners and two breakfasts. Find more information at www.tuckahoeestuariencenter.com or lamiddleton79@gmail.com.

The Anne Arundel County Fair received a 2019 grant from the Maryland Horse Industry Board. They have built new jumps and a storage shed. They purchased barrels and poles. They hope to host a fall schooling show, and welcome show ideas and suggestions for other equine events. The 2019 Anne Arundel County Fair is September 11-15 in Crownsville, a few miles off I-97. https://aacountyfair.org/fair-week/ For more information or pass along ideas, please contact Jacquie Cowan at 410-215-4979 or jacquiecowan@comcast.net.

Chesapeake Bay Hawks Lacrosse and Crownsville State Hospital Update .... Maryland’s professional lacrosse team’s proposal to build a large sports complex and stadium on the grounds of the old Crownsville State Hospital seems to be at a stand-still. At one time the proposal included taking over the adjacent Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds as well. The general surrounding community of Crownsville is opposed to the project because it does not have the infrastructure to accommodate the additional traffic, and does not wish to endure the construction headaches. They are also concerned for the negative impact on the Bacon Ridge Natural Area that the Hospital property backs up to. The State Department of Health still owns the property and is conducting its own study of all its dormant properties and what to do with them. Several non-profits and mental health services utilize some of the old buildings and do not wish to relocate.

County Executive, Steuart Pittman, has pledged he would push for the County to take over the property which is also supported by Governor Larry Hogan. Mr. Pittman’s vision for the Crownsville Hospital Center grounds is a nature park and possibly a site for renewable energy, such as solar panels, which is more in line with the community and would further support the Bacon Ridge Natural Area.

Have you heard about “Horse Talk” in Anne Arundel County … There is a new social gathering of fellow equestrians, professionals and horse enthusiasts who meet every other month at the Green Turtle in Annapolis. There is no formal agenda, sometimes a guest speaker or two, and most important no obligations. Just a nice opportunity to meet and greet, tell stories, share ideas, problems and solutions. No RSVP necessary – just show up, order a drink with tasty food, and enjoy meeting folks with whom you may have a lot in common. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 15 at 7:00 at the Annapolis Green Turtle Restaurant.

Maryland Senator Joseph Tydings’ Legacy Continues. The Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act / HR 693 finally passed through the U.S. Congress with a vote of 333-96 before the August break. Senator Tydings was the original sponsor of and introduced the Horse Protection Act (HPA) of 1970. More info on page 5.

Look your best this season in our TROT LOGO WEAR. Contact Carolann Sharpe at blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com
PAST TRAIL RIDES, Barbara Sollner-Webb

So far, TROT has held 18 organized trail rides this year, including the four reported below. Unfortunately, nearly that many planned rides had to be cancelled or postponed - generally due to it being too hot and/or the ground being too wet -- including the rides planned for Thursday, June 20 at Rachel Carson to be led by Debbie Wagner, for Thursday, June 27 to be led by Laury Lobel, for Thursday, July 18 at Little Bennett to be led by Debbie Wagner and for Thursday, July 25 to be led by Laury Lobel.

However, TROT did hold four rides this reporting period:

**Sweet Air, photos by Bianca Paterakis, write up by Priscilla Huffman**
We had a well-attended ride from the Sweet Air section of Gunpowder Falls State Park on Saturday, June 29th. Our leaders were Bianca Paterakis on Thor, and Priscilla Huffman on Ranger. Riders included Jackie King, Suzy Armacost, Mette Fields, Susan Hayden, Stephanie Owens, Cheryl Roth, Karen Durilla, Frank Durilla, Chrissy Hall, Kendra Grasso, Jessica Conaway, Megan Keating and Holly Decon.

We rode about two hours through corn fields, woods, and along the river. This is a good training route, with water stoppings and wooden bridge crossings. When we came to the large corn field which is moved around the edges, we split into two groups with the gaited horses going one direction around the field, and others going in the opposite direction, so everyone got to move out at a faster pace. We enjoyed lunch afterwards at the shaded picnic table by the parking area. Join us at Sweet Air again on Sat, September 28th and ride one of the popular areas in GFSP with ample trailer parking.

**Torrey C. Brown Trail, photos by Bianca Paterakis, write up by Priscilla Huffman**
Cheers to the riders who showed on this HOT June day! This ride was held on a weekday since the Torrey C. Brown trail (formerly NCR trail) is very popular on weekends with family hikers and cyclists. The trail follows 19.7 miles of the former Northern Central Railway in northern Baltimore County from Ashland north to the Maryland-Pennsylvania line, passing through historic communities. The trail has a few entrances for trailers, and our group left from the Freeland Road parking lot, close to the PA line.

Ride leaders were Bianca Paterakis on Thor and Priscilla Huffman on Ranger. Other riders included Ivy Smink, Jean Swartz, Jessica Conaway, and Cheryl Roth.

The trail is flat with a natural surface, and although it’s an up-and-back ride, there is beautiful scenery. You even pass a few homes of people lucky enough to have property right along the trail. Our calm trail horses were put to the test when a large group of more than 20 children and chaperones on bikes came by.

*Continued on Page 5*
On the way back, another large group of children were playing in the river (lots of happy shrieking and calling out to the horses). Our trail mounts all passed with flying colors and it definitely added some excitement to the ride!

After the ride, with horses tied up in the shade, we enjoyed lunch under the trees and especially liked the Berger cookies and fruit salad that was shared.

Little Bennett, photo and write up by Barbara Sollner-Webb
On Saturday, July 27, Corinne Pouliquen and Meggan Whalen were going to lead a ride in Patuxent River State Park, but due to an un-negotiable downed tree it was moved to Little Bennett. Anne Butcher actually led this ride, and it was delightful! Lovely day, great group of riders, swell trails. The pace was largely walk with some very nice trotting runs, and everyone seemed to enjoy it super much. Afterwards was a very nice group lunch, to which Corinne and Meggan kindly brought apples and carrots for the hoses, which they greatly appreciated.

The riders, from left to right in the appended group photo, were: Barbara Sollner-Webb, Mikyla Martinez, Carrie Martinez, Corinne Poulequen, Meggan Whalen, Anne Butcher, Stacey Varner, Debra Dunber and Jessica Conaway.

Morgan Run, photo and write up by Leah Mack
Friday, August 9 Leah Mack led a ride at Morgan Run. They had a great ride with gorgeous weather and almost no bugs. Although 18 folks had signed up it ended up a ride of 10 people and horses. It was Leah's daughter's first TROT ride and she did great. Happily, Leah now thinks she may try leading monthly rides - yay!

Union Mills, photos and write up by Ivy Smink
Sunday, August 19 in spite of the predicted “real feel” temperature of 100 plug degrees. We started at 9:30am to beat the heat and finish before noon. Mission accomplished: 8 miles in about 2.5 hours with a walk pace that included several stream crossings, gravel road, metal bridge, and a shaded narrow path that required good horsemanship skills to navigate technical areas safely. The trails boasted the driest conditions in about two years, but were rugged due to the last two years of surplus rain fall. This trail still remains a favorite in Carroll County. Riders: (not in order of picture) Florence Arnold, Nancy Harmon, Kendra Grasso, Sean Marsh, Meg Keating, Brianna Naill, Joe Hild and ride leader Ivy Smink.

Nearly 7 years ago we began a long battle in the war against soring to pass the Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act. Maryland was the first state horse councils to file support of the bill; and our written advocacy served as an example for more to follow. The original bill was held political hostage in committee, even though it carried a strong bipartisan support all the while. Amendments have been offered, changes made, and the new bill was re-introduced to the 2019 Congress in January. Maryland Congressman Steny Hoyer lead the way to its recent passage in the Congress.

The PAST Act will strengthen the Horse Protection Act (HPA) by eliminating the “stack” platform shoes and chains worn around the ankles; provide better and more consistent enforcement by the USDA; elevate violations to felony status with increased fines and suspensions; and make other reforms to finally shut down the continued abuse of soring.

The PAST Act has been referred to the US Senate, been read twice, and forwarded to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. So be a part of Senator Tydings’ legacy by:

- Encourage the Committee to favorably pass on to the Senate floor for vote by calling 202-224-1251/202-224-0411
- Demand to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to allow the vote https://www.mcconnell.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=ContactForm
- Ask your Senator to vote YES 202-224-3121

Maryland has not had performance padded horses shown or trained here for about 30 years since the Plantation Walking Horses of Maryland refused to provide padded classes in their flat-shod horse shows, and provided inspections of all horses according to the Horse Protection Act.
**FAIRLAND PARK TRAIL RIDE, Saturday 9/7/19**

Trail Ride. [Rain date: Saturday, September 14.] The scenic Fairland Regional Park that spans Montgomery and Prince George's counties offers really nice trails and is used by too few riders. There will be an all-walk and a faster group; shoes needed only for very tender-footed horses. And please bring something yummy to share for a potluck after the ride. [See articles on this park’s lovely trails in the July 2015 TROT newsletter. RSVP: Barbara Sollner-Webb, 301-604-5619, bsw@jhmi.edu.]

**PATUXENT RIVER S.P. TRAIL RIDE, Thursday 9/12/19**

Come join us on another ride at this favorite venue, with great trails, swell footing and ideal for green horses. The pace will be all-walk, with opportunities for those who want to move out to ride some alternate loops and then rejoin the group. Bring your sandwich and drink, to join in a group lunch after the ride; Debbie will bring treats. RSVP: Debbie Wagner, 301-233-7738 phone or text.

**GILLIS FALLS TRAIL WORK, Sunday 9/15/19**

This trail work day is in conjunction with the Carroll County Equestrian Council. Trail work starts at 9am and ends at noon. FMI: Jon Arnold, 301-524-8448, jonbarnold@hotmail.com.

**LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH TRAIL RIDE**

Information about the “Last Thursday of the Month” trail ride will be on the TROT Facebook community group. The pace will be at a walk. For those who want to move out, there be alternate loops to take and then rejoin the group. Bring a sandwich to join in a group lunch after the ride. RSVP: Laury Lobel, 301-467-7300, laurylobel@verizon.net.

**SWEET AIR TRAIL RIDE, Saturday 9/28/19**

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-trot-cantering if trail conditions permit and the length is 2 hours. There is trailer parking in a field and a picnic table. Along the trail are some muddy spots and 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. RSVP: Bianca Paterakis, 443-340-4036, biancavanhorn@me.com.

**LEAGUE OF MD HORSEMEN INVITATIONAL**

Friday 10/4/19—Sunday 10/6/19

TROT members are invited to join in this delightful annual horse camping and trail riding event, with delicious food provided, and swell company. FMI: Joyce Bell, 410-820-6002, wbell2@washcoll.edu.

This is the one event during the year non-members can attend. 166 miles of trails with meals provided Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. The 6 acre campground has bathrooms and showers, campsites with electric, tie lines as well as space to accommodate portable corrals.
UPCOMING TRAIL RIDES

MORGAN RUN TRAIL WORK
See bulleted list on pages 6 & 7 for dates

This trail work day is in conjunction with the Carroll County Equestrian Council. Trail work starts at 9am and ends at noon. FMI: Carolyn Garber, 410-549-5141.

MORGAN RUN TRAIL RIDE, Thursday 10/17/19

The pace will be all-walk, with opportunities for those who want to move out to ride some alternate loops and then rejoin the group. Bring your sandwich and drink, to join in a group lunch after the ride. RSVP: Debbie Wagner, 301-233-7738 phone or text.

TUCKAHOE EQUESTRIAN CENTER, Saturday 10/26/19

Tuckahoe State Park, near Ridgely, on the Eastern Shore of MD. Come join us on this ride, through a lovely venue. Although on the Eastern Shore, it is only about an hour drive from I-95. RSVP: Joyce Bell (410-820-6002 or wbell2@washcoll.edu)

Trails at Tuckahoe offer a variety of terrain, while some quite level and great for gaiting, other areas are more hilly. The trails often follow the beautiful Tuckahoe River, and there will be some stream crossings. Horseshoes are generally not necessary. The ride will be 2-3 hours, and the pace will depend on the wishes of the riders who are present. We will meet at Tuckahoe Equestrian Center, and share our packed lunches there after the ride (sweets and drinks will be provided).

UNION MILLS TRAIL WORK, Saturday 11/2/19

Trail Work Day in conjunction with Carroll County Equestrian Council. 9 - 12 starting at the Kowomu Trail Parking lot. FMI: Ellen Styers, 410-596-8577, amber29@wildblue.net.

ROCKY GORGE TRAIL WORK, Saturday 11/9/19

Last year, after the passing of the wonderful trail advocate and founding TROT member, Terry Ledley, we decided to do a yearly trail work session to honor Terry's memory. What better place than on the trail that Terry made and WSSC dedicated to her? We will break into small groups to be most efficient, and walk along the trail, pruning overgrowth for about two hours and then have a lunch at my house abutting the trail. Pruning tools will be provided. Please come to honor Terry! RSVP: Barbara Sollner-Webb, 301-604-5619, bsw@jhmi.edu.

FAIRLAND TRAIL RIDE, Thursday 11/14/19

The pace will be all-walk, with opportunities for those who want to move out to ride some alternate loops and then rejoin the group. Bring your sandwich and drink, to join in a group lunch after the ride. RSVP: Debbie Wagner, 301-233-7738 phone or text.

ANACOSTIA TRAIL RIDE, Saturday 11/23/19

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. RSVP: John Angevine, 301-937-0014

For up-to-date information, see Facebook or TROT’s Calendar
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Secretary
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603-573-1123

TROT TRAIL RIDES, Barbara Sollner-Webb

TROT’s organized trail rides are a fun and safe way to learn new trails, meet new riding buddies, and help illustrate to riders the value of preserving trails. Please contact Barbara Sollner-Webb, bsw@jhmi.edu, 301-604-5619) to lead or co-lead a TROT ride. To participate in a ride, please contact the designated ride leader to sign up, learn the start time and directions to the ride out area. Be sure to provide the ride leader with your contact information so if weather causes the ride to be postponed, the ride leader can notify you.

All riders must wear a helmet, have a current negative Coggins on the horse they are riding, and be a TROT member. Membership forms can be found at http://trot-md.org/join-now/, as well as at the ride. There are also $5 one-day memberships for non TROT members. For updated trail ride listings or to post a trailering request, please check the social media links on TROT’s website.

CHESAPEAKE FAIR HILL GET AWAY

October 10-13. Chesapeake Fair Hill Get Away. jacquiecowan@comcast.net, 410-215-4979

LAUREL/BURTONSVILLE AREA

Barbara Sollner-Webb, Area Coordinator

WSSC's great watershed staff has been in and kindly done work on the Rocky Gorge (T. Howard Duckett) trail and abutting "firebreak," the latter which hopefully will avert a lot of erosion. Thanks so much!

WSSC just announced that there are toxic levels of algae in the rocky Gorge Reservoir, so when riding there, do not let your horse get in or drink water from the reservoir (drinking from the moving tributary streams is OK).

MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD FORUM

Carolann Sharpe

On August 8, 2019, at Goucher College, The 2019 Maryland Horse Industry Board Forum was held. This Forum is held every 4 years and provides all that participate in the Equine Community to come and speak on topics that have been identified as of concern to the community. The findings will be published and shared in the near future.

The sessions were broken into 3 Topics and 4 sessions per Topic then followed by summary remarks and a Touch of Class Presentation. Afterward, a networking reception sponsored by the Maryland Horse Breeding Association, Music by the George Mayo Family Band and Boordy Wines and Farmacy Brewing Company was held.

Here are the Topics and their Session names:

- Participation, Promotion, Education - Perception of the Horse Industry, Recruiting and Retaining the Next Generation, Protection and Use of Recreational Riding space, Education Availability and Impact
- Horse-Keeping and Welfare - Unwanted Horses in Need of Transition, Safeguarding our Horses’ Health, Doing Better by our Horses, Welfare and Safety of the Racehorse

The sessions were interactive, well facilitated and abroad, highly thought-provoking exchange of ideas was allowed. Each session was a solution and action-based. This unique experience was truly amazing to be a part of.

Overall, a take away was Maryland is leading the nation if not the world in how it cares for and provides for its equine’s and its community. To discover more, visit https://mda.maryland.gov/horseboard/pages/horse_board.aspx
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NORTHERN BALTIMORE & HARFORD COUNTIES

Priscilla Huffman & Bianca Paterakis, Area Coordinators

A large tree which has been blocking a popular trail in Gunpowder Falls State Park, Panther Branch trail, will be removed by DNR park chainsaw crew the week of August 19th. Several hours have been donated by volunteers to help other parts of Panther Branch remain open during the summer. Our next ride is planned for Saturday, September 28th leaving from the Sweet Air area in Harford County.

CELEBRATION OF THE HORSE

TEC will be hosting a "CELEBRATION OF THE HORSE" event from 10:00-4:00 on September 28, 2019. Admission is Free ($2 to park). There will be food, vendors, and demonstrations of all kinds. Go to tuckahoeequestriancenter.com FMI.

SADDLIN’ UP FOR BREAST CANCER TRAIL RIDE & AUCTION

September 21, 2019, Tuckahoe Equestrian Center
Trail ride, lunch, raffles, prizes, silent and live auctions
Camping available
All proceeds benefit The Red Devils, who provide comfort and support to patients and their families during treatment. jacquiecowan@comcast.net / 410-215-4979 FMI
**WELCOME New & Returning Members**
While TROT was founded in Maryland, its purpose is universal for those who enjoy trails.

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<th>Ivy Allgeier &amp; Family</th>
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Newsletter and ad submissions are due:
February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15, and December 15.

Printed copies of the newsletter can be mailed directly to your door for $5 an issue.
Send printed newsletter payments to PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777