Dana Grabiner, December 3, 1957—November 6, 2019

We mourn the untimely passing of Dana Grabiner, a wonderful activist TROT member and previous TROT board member as well as a renowned leader in her community. For years, Dana boarded her horse at Debby Poole's farm and loved riding the Rocky Gorge trail behind the farm. Dana will surely be remembered by long-time TROT members for her activism, including organizing the most informative TROT "Visioning Sessions" (one at Schooley Mill park, another at an Annual Dinner) in which TROT members brainstormed on desired directions that TROT should undertake in the general areas of Advocacy and Policy, Education, Membership, Trail Maintenance, and Trail Rides (see many pages in the March and the May, 2016, TROT newsletters devoted to the great ideas that were generated). Dana also applied for and secured two grants for TROT, one for redoing of TROT's aged introductory video (a project she coordinated, the excellent product you see played at TROT's Annual Dinner and TROT booths at various Expos) and the other for creating GoPro trail recordings, to enable non-riders to vicariously experience a trail ride (which she was coordinating when her cancer started progressing). Earlier on, Dana was very active in the major effort we organized through TROT that ended up successfully keeping the WSSC/Rocky Gorge trail open for equestrian use, and she often told me that this trail preservation activism so impressed that she decided to become a TROT board member.

In her community of Hyattsville, Dana was loved and extremely active, including organizing a community band (the "Wild Anacostias", which she played in and wrote songs for), as well as a family band. After the indoor part of Dana's funeral -- attended by an estimated 500 people including TROT members Fritzi Grow, Debby Poole, Jenn Neese, Virginia Henriksen and Barbara Sollner-Webb -- the Wild Anacostias played somber music while leading lots of the attendees to the burial site and then uplifting music while leading attendees back from the burial. Dana loved Mardi Gras-style costumes, which were prominently worn by many at the funeral, and her casket was adorned with beads and flowers when it was lowered into the ground. Her saddle and riding boots were also on display at the funeral. Dana is survived by her husband, son, daughter and sister, who will miss her tremendously, as will her very many friends. She would surely be very happy to know that Debby Poole will let Dana's beloved horse live out his life at her farm. Dana was one in a million

Continued on page 2
DANA GRABINER, continued from page 1

**Article by Debby Poole**
Pictures from Debby Poole & Barbara Sollner-Webb

She was a tiny little lady who came in like a whirlwind around 10 years ago. A feisty, sassy lady who loved a challenge, excitement, and getting involved. This was the Dana Grabiner I met when she brought an equally as described above little red mare, Bella to board with us.

I don't remember how Dana found Belle Cote Farm, and I might not even have met Joe her husband who now realizes he owns a horse. But Dana made herself known as she got involved in a rushed kind of way. She was almost always late because she had taken the time to talk or visit someone, was at a community/neighborhood meeting, an animal/trail protector event, or playing in a band. To say she was involved was not just a thought but a powerful force in her life. Bright and intelligent she was a handful! Yes, Dana and Bella where both handfuls!!! LOL

The last trail ride I had with them was a fast-paced, exciting Yaaaahoooo kind of ride!!! A lot of fun and a glimpse into what Dana and Bella (who is in her 30's) loved to do go fast through life.

I saw Dana in August at Cowboy Glenn's celebration of life and we talked about riding. She felt really good that day, so I was shocked to hear she was in hospice not long after. To say she put up a good fight is an understatement. I know she longed to spend more time with all she loved.

The funeral was amazing for her children, husband and all who knew her. It was a real celebration of who she was and what she loved. Hundreds came and walked behind her hearse singing mournful songs in New Orleans style. After being released from the earth, we walked back through the cemetery singing wonderful freeing fun songs, she is free from pain and can now Fly Away.

I brought Bella back her own set of Mardi Gras beads. We have them hanging on the barn and Bella got to wear them too.

Thank you all for your thoughts and concerns, I hope you are reaching out to Joe, Sam, and Dasha. Bella will be staying with me.

Debby and all who knew her at Belle Cote Farm, Fairview Farm, and TROT.
BECOME A BOARD MEMBER

As you leap in to the new year with your TROT membership card, license plate, and logo wear, please also consider ensuring the future of TROT by becoming a board member. 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 a few meetings and voting to determine the future of TROT. It is that simple!

The current board of directors (see page 8) will be on the nominating committee in addition to other TROT members (Karen Durilla, Carolyn Garber, Priscilla Huffman, Jean Swartz). Nominate yourself, and nominate your friends by completing the application below and emailing it to TROTPresident@gmail.com

---

2020 TROT BOARD NOMINEE

Must be submitted by January 15, 2020 to be eligible

I __________________________ am interested in becoming a TROT Board Member. Per the TROT Bylaws, I certify that I am a current TROT member and will continue my membership throughout my tenure as a board member. I understand this is a volunteer position, and should I be selected to serve on the TROT Board, I will receive no compensation for my time. I also understand that this is a two year term requiring a commitment of attending at least 75% of the TROT meetings throughout the year.

I am interested in becoming a TROT Board Member because:

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

I can bring the following skills to the TROT Board:

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

What do you view as the top three priorities for TROT in the next two years?

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

Describe the resources/connections you have in the “horse community” which you would leverage to help TROT achieve its goals.

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

What is your greatest strength that you would bring to the TROT Board?

__________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________

How many volunteer hours per month would you likely be able to devote to TROT? __________

__________________________________________  __________

Signature                                          Date

---

COMMITTEES

Nominating
Board of Directors
Carolann Sharpe
blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com
410-908-5599
Suzy Armacost
keckert236@hotmail.com
Debbie Wagner
dwagner0602@gmail.com
PayPal
Sim Shanks
simshanks@verizon.net
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Susan Montgomery
shadowswrider6749@yahoo.com
Social Media
Constant Contact
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Sim Shanks
simshanks@verizon.net
Mail Chimp
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Facebook Group
Carolann Sharpe
blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com
Joan Spinner
jspinner2@gmail.com
Stephanie Brennan
dadslilcobra@yahoo.com
Facebook Page
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Instagram
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Twitter
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Trail Rides
Barbara Sollner-Webb
bsw@jhmi.edu
301-824-6152
Cassie Durand
cjdurand06@gmail.com
Ashley Reier
ashley.reier1@gmail.com
Webmaster
Susan Montgomery
TROTWmester@gmail.com
### Area Coordinators

**Anne Arundel County**  
Jacquie Cowan  
jacquiecowan@comcast.net  
410-215-4979

**Northern Baltimore and Harford County**  
Priscilla Huffman  
priscillahuffman@verizon.net  
301-646-4422  
Bianca Paterakis  
biancavanhorn@me.com  
443-340-4036

**Carroll County**  
Stephanie Brennan  
dadsilicobra@yahoo.com  
603-573-1123

**Frederick County**  
Debbie Wagner  
301-233-7738

**Laurel/Burtonsville**  
Barbara Sollner-Webb  
bsw@jhmi.edu  
301-655-3552

**Eastern Shore**  
Katelin Cook  
katelinmconkey@gmail.com

**York, PA**  
Amanda Gross  
saintblueeyes10@gmail.com

**Virginia**  
Brieanah Schwartz  
trot.vp@gmail.com

---

**CARROLL COUNTY, Stephanie Brennan**

Yup, it is that time of year again whether we like it or not. The cold weather is here. When it is not fit to ride, I am out hiking and maintaining the trails.

As we start this new year, I would like to gather again as Carroll County TROT members to plan our 2020 county events.

Please reach out to me with your interests and how you can be of assistance. Any and all help is accepted and appreciated.

---

**LAUREL/BURTONSVILLE AREA**  
Barbara Sollner-Webb, Area Coordinator

On Terry Ledley's passing TROT decided to schedule yearly work sessions in her honor and invite all TROT members to join. We wanted the first work-day to be on Terry's favorite trail, along the Rocky Gorge Reservoir in Laurel, and finally on the 4th attempt (Saturday, 11-9-19) it was successfully held. I was joined by TROT member Debbie Wagner as well as two members of my civic assn., Kemal Eralp and Liz Wade. We split up to go in different directions, and all together got a great deal done along about three miles of trail -- pruning, removing fallen branches that impeded the trail, and removing an entire jumbled mess of fallen tree plus two other obstructing trees. It was great work that would have made Terry proud.

---

**NORTHERN BALTIMORE and HARFORD COUNTIES**  
Priscilla Huffman and Bianca Paterakis, Area Coordinators

Two big trees have been cleared by the park staff on the Panther Branch trail near Hereford High School. This is one of the trails that hikers use as well so we are all grateful to have it re-opened.

DNR staff sponsored a thank-you pancake breakfast for local volunteers on Friday, Dec 6th at the Jerusalem Mill headquarters which was well-attended.

The Gunpowder Volunteer Mounted Patrol will be exhibiting at the World of Pets Expo held at the Timonium Fair Grounds January 24-26, 2020. Details can be found under the Maryland tab at [http://www.worldofpets.org/](http://www.worldofpets.org/)

Bianca and I will be scheduling a few rides in 2020 but no dates set at this time.

Happy trails!
40th ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL DINNER
February 15, 2020

Save the Date! TROT’s 40th Annual Meeting and Dinner
February 15, 2020

Please join your fellow TROT members to celebrate TROT’s 40th Anniversary at the MAVFC Reception Hall in Mount Airy, MD. The event is free to all members and will include dinner, a short speaker, annual meeting, and silent auction to benefit TROT!

SUPPORT
We are looking for sponsors for the annual dinner! If you know someone who may be interested in sponsoring the annual dinner, please contact cdurandtrot@gmail.com

SILENT AUCTION
Each year, TROT holds a silent auction to raise money. We welcome donations of tack, clothing, items, or services! Tack and clothing must be clean and in new or like new condition. If you have an item you would like to donate to the silent auction, please use this form or email cdurandtrot@gmail.com.

PHOTOS
We are taking a walk down memory lane. If you have older TROT photos or memorabilia you would like to share, please email us or call/text Cassie at 240-620-4235.

DINNER
TROT will be catering the main dish portion of the meal. Please feel free to bring a side dish or dessert as in past years. We look forward to celebrating with you!
PAST EVENTS

Tuckahoe Trail Ride, October 26, 2019
Joyce Bell

Marie Yonkoski and Beth Przybylski honored me (and a Tuckahoe friend) with their company on a glorious fall day to ride the trails in Tuckahoe State Park. The terrain at Tuckahoe -- sandy with few hills --- were dry and well maintained; only one tree required a go-around. We were happy to find that the park had begun portions new trails -- detouring around some of the older, narrower sections -- that should be completed in 2020. After riding several hours, we shared drinks and snacks back at Tuckahoe Equestrian Center.

Past Rides, Barbara Sollner-Webb

Barbara Sollner-Webb (trial ride coordinator for the last many years):
The weather permitted only one of TROT rides planned since the last newsletter (the Cindy Berkey Camping and Trail Ride at Tuckahoe Equestrian Center, Friday 11/1/19—Sunday 11/3/19, in which some TROT members participated and had a great time) but the other rides (Laury Lobel's Last-Thursday-of-the-Month ride 10-31-19, Debby Wagner's Fairland ride on 11-14-19 and John Angevine's Anacostia ride on 11-23-19) unfortunately had to be cancelled for rain or cold. Nonetheless, for the year we had a large number of excellent TROT rides, which many riders enjoyed and often allowed them to learn trails that were new for them.

PATUXENT TRAIL WORK DAYS TROT SHOUT OUT

We had an amazing turnout for trail work on Sunday. It was a super productive day! I want to thank everyone who came out, and a BIG thank you to the equestrian club TROT for providing lunch.

We cleared and built an additional 0.4 miles of trail, all the way to the first bridge site. There are some beautiful rocks along this section of trail, and there are some exciting possibilities for hikers (a scenic spot for a break or a place where kids can climb on boulders) and bikers (challenging A lines and B lines). If you haven’t been to this part of the park, you really have to see this terrain to understand the natural beauty. This trail will be a destination!

We now have almost a mile of trail cleared, and it is hikeable as is. But with the steep side slopes it is not ready for horses or bikes yet. We are planning to hire professional trail builders to bench cut these steeper areas that are spread out throughout the project, but that pro work won’t happen until next summer at the earliest. In the meantime, we will keep clearing corridor and building trail.

We have just over a mile of trail left to build in Howard County for phase 1. And there is a lot more of the beautiful terrain to work with!

Tom Newton
Patuxent Liaison
Mid-Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts (MORE)

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.
### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### GRASSROOTS WORKSHOP, Barbara Sollner-Webb

The November TROT newsletter announced an upcoming FREE Grassroots Workshop, intended to help equestrians learn more about how our Maryland legislature and county governments work, how bills become laws, and how to effectively communicate your thoughts and wishes to your elected officials. **REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!!** The event will be from 10AM-3PM on January 4, 2020, at the Maryland Farm Bureau offices in Davidsonville, MD, and includes a free lunch. The Workshop is being hosted by the Maryland Horse Council and Maryland Farm Bureau. For more information, such as the agenda, check out the Maryland Horse Council’s website. The event is free, but seating is limited, so **registration** is required.

#### MONTHLY MEETING

TROT’s monthly meetings are open to everyone. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 8, 2019 at HoundsCroft Farm. Dial-in #605-313-4459.

#### PATUXENT TRAIL WORK DAYS, Amy Kimble

All dates are 9am-1pm, but the location may vary between Route 94 and Mullinix Mill Road. Sunday 1/12, Saturday 1/25, Saturday 2/8, Saturday 2/22.

#### ESTATE PLANNING

University of Maryland Extension is offering a series of workshops on estate planning and related issues. One of these will be held at the Montgomery County Extension Office on Wednesday, January 22nd. The workshop will begin with registration at 8:30am and conclude by 3pm. To register for any of the events click on the following link, [https://extension.umd.edu/events/series/5778](https://extension.umd.edu/events/series/5778). The workshop will cost $17.55 if you register online and $15.00 if you want to pay by check or cash at the door.

> These are important issues that often get pushed to the back burner because they're not easy to deal with. I hope you can take advantage of this opportunity.

#### TRAILER SAFETY SEMINAR

**Trailer Safety Seminar - Details Coming Soon!**

The Events Committee is organizing a Trailer Safety Seminar. Do you want to learn about maintaining a safe trailer for your precious cargo? How about safety tips for when you hit the road? Are you confused by the difference GVWR and GCWR? We will cover these topics and much much more. Stay tuned for additional details about this great event. Announcements will be made on Facebook. If you have any questions, you can contact the Events Committee at TROTEvents@gmail.com.

#### TROT’S Monthly Meeting

- 1/4/20 Grassroots Workshop
- 1/8/20 TROT’s Monthly Meeting
- 1/12/20, 1/25/20, 2/8/20, 2/22/20 Patuxent Trail Work Days
- 1/22/20 Estate Planning
- 1/24/20-1/26/20 Pet Expo

#### Trailer Safety Seminar

For up-to-date information, see Facebook or TROT’s Calendar
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Stephanie Brennan
trotsecretary@gmail.com
603-573-1123
Fritzi Grow
fgrow77@gmail.com
Deneen Martin
deneenmartin7@gmail.com
301-467-5335
Pat Oliva
patotigger@gmail.com
410-489-7380
Susan Montgomery
shadowriders6749@yahoo.com
Carolyn Rhodes
crhodes@gingery.net
301-717-6178
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Andrea Steed
luvtogiddyup@gmail.com
443-340-7017
Brooke Vrany
brooketrot@outlook.com

OFFICERS
President
Fritzi Grow
fgrow77@gmail.com
Vice President
Brieanah Schwartz
trot.vp@gmail.com
Secretary
Stephanie Brennan
trotsecretary@gmail.com
603-573-1123
Treasurer
Brooke Vrany
brooketrot@outlook.com

CLASSIFIED ADS

FREE Tractor-Trailer

Give away, Tractor-Trailer
Perfect for hay storage if roof is replaced.
Your responsibility to move.
Similar to the one pictured.
Contact Debby Poole
Bellecotefarm@gmail.com
Burtonsville, MD

Equine Plates & Tags

Trails Getaway for Horse & Riders

WWW.VALLEYMEADOWFARMS.COM

Gift certificates available for this one-of-a-kind “bed & barn” vacation rental for horse & riders to enjoy in Western MD. Reviews are fabulous.

4 bedroom farmhouse, stalls, corral. Private trails on 400 acres at Sideling Hill near Hancock.

Call 301-678-6584 or email kathy@valleymeadowfarms.com for dates and rates.
CLASSIFIED ADS

Full Care Horse Boarding $325 and Apartment for Rent, Sykesville

40 years experience, large stalls available, plenty of turn out, large pastures and dry lots, wash stall, tack room, riding ring, round pen, trailer parking, and wooded trails on 37 acre farm.

Large sunny efficiency apt w/ full bath, full kitchen and walk in closet, and deck. Shared laundry and some storage. $800 plus electric /free Wi-Fi. Stall rent negotiable.

Lisa and Walter Sipes, Forever Spring Farm Sykesville, MD. 443-878-7774

Easyboots

Easyboot Trail Size 8—$115
Purchased new for $150, rode in for 10 minutes and they rotated. Just dirty from the trail. Were not taken in water or mud. Clean Velcro, etc. Will sell together or separate. Price listed is 25% off and for both. Free shipping. Email Brieanah for more info bvs.sbc@gmail.com.

Gaited Horse Lessons with Jacquie Cowan

Specializing in the softly gaited horses for trail or show; trail skills and confidence building. Individuals, groups, and clinics. Jacquie will come to you. 410-215-4979 or jacquiecowan@comcast.net

Your Horse Exercised for FREE This Winter

Advanced Beginner rider ISO beginner-safe horses to ride over the winter time. I take weekly lessons at Coexist Stables, but would love more time in the saddle. References available & willing to help with care. 443-462-0652

Horse Blanket Wash/Repair

Free pick-up/delivery available for six or more.
Price sheet and more info can be found at Roxy@SweetRockStables.com or 410-374-3870

Manure Spreader

For Sale
16 year old 75G Mill Creek Manure Spreader with Rhino lining.
Needs new apron chain and other work.
$1000.
Call/Text: 410-370-8580

Look your best in TROT LOGO WEAR.
Contact Carolann Sharpe at blackandwhitecookie@yahoo.com

To place a classified ad, email TROTNewsletter@gmail.com

AD RATES

100 Words $6
(each additional word $0.10)

Business Card $6

1/4 Page $25

1/2 Page $40

Full Page $75

TROT members can place one 100-word or business card-sized ad in each issue of the newsletter for free. TROT members wanting to run a larger ad receive $6 off.

Please remember TROT is not responsible for, nor does it endorse or support products or services in these classifieds.

Give us your newsletter feedback TROTNewsletter@gmail.com
2020 Membership, A Reminder From TROT’s Registrar

TROT’s 2019 membership year has ended. If you haven’t already renewed, it’s time!

TROT’s new fee structure:
- Single membership, one adult, $20.
- Family membership, multiple adults sharing a residence, $30.
- Minors (under 18 years of age at time of enrollment) sharing a residence with a member are free.
- Printed, mailed newsletters are $30 for the year. Emailed newsletters are free.
- And of course TROT loves donations.

You can renew at TROT’s website, https://trot-md.org/join-now/.

BTW, the application form is your opportunity to sign up family members, request extra membership cards, express interest in TROT activities, and, most important, keep your contact information up to date.

Even if you’ve been a member for years, please fill out the form: your life changes more than you think. (And the registrar has fat fingers – yikes!)

Where are TROT Members?

Elisa Mosley

Here’s a chart showing where TROT’s members lived in 2019. The counties with green bars have coordinators. The counties with red bars need a coordinator. The yellow bar indicates an area coordinator but not full coverage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>2019 Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anne Arundel County MD</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Won’t you volunteer to be an area coordinator in your area? It’s fun, easy, rewarding, and a great way to make friends.
New / Renewal TROT Membership Application

Date: __________________  ____ Membership Renewal  ____ New Membership

Member Information: PLEASE PRINT *Required information

Indicate the Information you DO NOT wish to be included in the TROT directory.

All membership Information is for the private use of TROT members. Membership Information is not released outside the organization.

Do not list

Do not list

Do not list

Do not list

Do not list

pri  sec

Most, but not all, of our communication with members is preferred to be done via email.

Primary Member

*First Name: ___________________________  ____ Do not list

*Last Name: ___________________________  ____ Do not list

*Street Address: ___________________________  ____ Do not list

*City: ___________________________  ____ State: ___________________________  ____ Do not list

*5 Digit Zip: __________  *County: ___________________________  ____ Do not list

*Phone: primary____________________ secondary ______________________  ____ Do not list

*Email: primary____________________ secondary ______________________  ____ Do not list

Adult Family Members: ___________________________  ____ Do not list

Child Family Members: ___________________________  ____ Do not list

Membership Rates.

1. A single membership is $20/year for 1 January to 31 December. Family membership, multiple adults (18 and over) residing at the same household, is $30/year. No membership fee for minor children at time of enrollment.

2. TROT publishes its newsletter six times per year. TROT charges $30/year for a printed and mailed copy. It is emailed for free and posted on TROT’s website.

3. TROT greatly appreciates any donation you might make. As a tax exempt 501(c)3 nonprofit organization your contribution is tax deductible and helps preserve the trails you ride on.

- Membership:  ____ Single $20  ____ Family $30  ____ Children $0  ____ Total Dues $____________
  - Total Members ______  ____ Total Membership Cards Requested ______

- Newsletter:  ____ Email  ____ Printed & Mailed $30  ____ Neither  ____ Newsletter $____________

- Donation  ____ Tax Deductible Contribution $____________

- Payment is  ____ Check  ____ Cash  ____ PayPal  ____ Total $____________

Volunteer Opportunities: TROT relies on volunteers for all of its activities. Please volunteer to make TROT succeed.

____ Area Coordinator  ____ Annual Dinner  ____ Booth  ____ Events  ____ Newsletter  ____ Ride Leader

____ Silent Auction  ____ Trail Clearing  ____ Other Activities (list) __________________________________________

To be more effective TROT would like to know:

Counties where you ride most __________________________________________

County where you keep your horse __________________________________________

How did you learn about TROT? __________________________________________

This form may be completed using most current PDF readers such as Adobe Reader. Open the form, enter your information, save the form noting the name and stored location. The completed form can then be attached to an email sent to TROTmembership@yahoo.com or printed and mailed to TROT Membership, PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777.

In the event that your PDF Reader does not allow you to complete the Application form, print the form and complete it by hand. Mail the completed form to TROT Membership, PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777.

Payment of dues and any contributions may be paid online using PayPal on http://trot-md.org/join-now/ or by mail to TROT Membership, PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777.
WELCOME New and Returning Members
While TROT was founded in Maryland, its purpose is universal for those who enjoy trails.

Jill Bangoura
Carroll County, MD

Janet & Gilbert Breeding
Carroll County, MD

Sandy & Larry Burnett, Emily Cantler
Anne Arundel County, MD

Susan Carroll
Montgomery County, MD

Crystal Damico
Arlington County, VA

Jessica & Connor McCarson
Washington County, MD

Wendy Todd
York County, PA

Diana Urick
Anne Arundel County, MD

Please mark your calendars!
Newsletter and ad submissions are due:
February 15, April 15, June 15, August 15, October 15, and December 15.

The TROT Newsletter is published six times a year: January, March, May, July, September, and November.

Trail Riders Of Today
PO Box 506
Highland, MD 20777

http://trot-md.org/

Printed copies of the newsletter can be mailed directly to your door for $30 an year.
Send printed newsletter payments to PO Box 506, Highland, MD 20777