



MHC UPDATE

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THE MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL

honors

Jane Toal, Diana Cullum and Bodgie Read

for over almost 100 combined years of volunteer service

The Pumphrey Memorial Awards

Some people volunteer for a show here, or an event there. They serve on a committee or board for a year or two. Or volunteer while their kids are involved.

For others, volunteering is a way to build their resume and to network.

And then there are those who volunteer just because it's the right thing to do. Just because it's their way of giving to the sport they love, or the community to which they belong.

They don't volunteer for the accolades, titles, "leadership roles," or wall plaques. They volunteer because it is how they can help.

They are willing to take the odd jobs, those no one else wants. And they continue to do it, year in and year out. Indeed, they are so steady and reliable that it's easy to overlook them or take them for granted.

The Maryland Horse Council's Pumphrey Memorial Award recognizes these unsung heroes, these "behind the scenes" volunteers without whom we would not be able to run our shows, build our facilities, or enjoy our sport.

On August 6, three outstanding volunteers will be honored with this award.

Diana Cullum

For 27 years, Diana Cullum has dedicated herself to 4-H in Howard County — organizing the horse judging, working the county and state fairs, and organizing the dressage shows at the state fair.

Cullum began her affiliation with 4-H as a volunteer for a club in Elkridge that later merged with the Spur and Stirrup 4-H Club. From there, her involvement in 4-H grew exponentially.

She has now managed the Maryland 4-H Dressage Show for approximately five years and taken over for Shirley Geis as Howard County's coach for horse judging and hippology. She also acts as the state hippology test manager and is a licensed 4-H judge.

"She's doing a very good job coaching the team," Geis says. "She's the kind of person who's there for the long term."

Cullum also lends her own horses to the horseless. "She is very generous in allowing 4-H kids to

use her animals, when they otherwise wouldn't have an animal," Geis continues.

Morgans are this Woodbine resident's breed of choice, and her own background includes barrel racing, Western and dressage.

"She's just incredible," Geis emphasizes. "I wish we had more like her!"

Bodgie Read

For 17 years, Bodgie Read has been a reliable force behind Fair Hill International and the Fair Hill Horse Trials, making sure each cross-country and stadium jump is painted, each sponsor has a sign on course, each dressage ring is set up, pinnies, dressage tests and score sheets are in order, judges are coordinated, and volunteers are recruited.

You will see her zooming about at the International, or at check-in on schooling days. "She is the ultimate volunteer," says FHI co-organizer and founder Trish Gilbert. "And not just for us. When she is not helping us, she is helping Pony Club and other local horse trials."

Indeed, Bodgie Read's volunteerism spans time and organizations within the horse industry. And it is for such dedication that she is being honored with the Pumphrey Memorial Award.

Read's interest in the horse industry came by way of her father, the late Colonel Fair, a founder and former president of the United States Pony Clubs.

Although Read was too old to join Pony Club when it was created, she began volunteering while her daughter was a member. From there, her involvement grew to her present position as Regional Supervisor for the Delmarva Region.

In the late 1980s, Read began to volunteer at the new Fair Hill International. Her proximity to the venue made it convenient, and she's been involved with FHI in one facet or another since then. Currently, she is in charge of the dressage phase at Fair Hill's six horse trials, as well as many other odds and ends.

Trish Gilbert describes Read as enthusiastic. "Long-standing, hardworking; she's sort of like the Energizer bunny," she says.

Read also volunteers at Freedom Hill Therapeutic Riding.

It is her unwavering dedication to the equestrian community that will keep her from attending the

Maryland Horse Council's 20th Anniversary Party to accept her award. Instead, she'll be volunteering at the United States Pony Clubs' National Championships in Lexington, Virginia.

Jane Toal

For 50 years, Jane Toal has been a steady volunteer with the Iron Bridge Hounds (now merged into the Howard County-Iron Bridge Hounds). She also volunteers for numerous trails groups, the Girl Scouts, and the East Park Civic Association.

"She's just always there — ALWAYS there," explains Mary Anne Steele, who grew up with Iron Bridge and now hunts with HCIBH.

"When there is a job to be done, you can always count on Jane," echoes Gretchen Moberly. "She works dinners, she sets up for the races, she works horse shows. If no one else shows up to do it, Jane does it — always with a smile on her face. She is now in her 80s, yet there she was recently, trudging to the end of the lane to put up balloons so people would know where to go, and then she was back checking people in. She's incredible."

Toal has been involved with foxhunting for most of her life and whipped for Iron Bridge Hounds for 26 years.

Her love of trail riding led her to volunteer clearing trails for TROT and similar organizations for many years.

"She is still always giving 100%," Moberly says.

NEXT MEETING OF THE TRAILS & GREENWAYS COMMITTEE:

August 10

Wall's Hall at Fair Hill

Host: DNR Fair Hill Natural Resources Management

For more information, please visit www.equiere.com and click on Trails & Greenways.

News & Notes

Maryland Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee Meeting, June 10

by Jim Titus

1. MG-MNCPPC's Carolyn Wainright is not seeking reappointment to a second term as Chairman of MBPAC. The new chairman will be Dave Dione of Anne Arundel County Parks and Recreation, arguably the biggest trail builder in Maryland. Technically, Wainright was one of two Baltimore

area residents required by the statute, so her replacement must be from that area.

2. The Authority that runs the Bay Bridge is considering building a truck weigh station using Homeland Security money, with Kent Island a possible site. Peter Lee said that the site would occupy land through which the new Cross-Island trail passes; but details are sketchy.

3. The Gwynne's Falls trail is officially open. Secretary Flanagan, Mayor O'Malley and the head of Rails to Trails were all at the opening -- and Congressman Ben Cardin took his bike on the 10-mile ride before the ceremony. (I got a flat on my mountain bike; Baltimore trails have a lot of glass.)

4. The Northern Chesapeake trail from Easton - Lewes is getting started. Easton already has five miles. The state is giving AA the go-ahead to start planning a trail along the light rail line from BWI to Harbor Hospital, to connect with the Gwynne's Falls trail.

5. The state is preparing a "missing links" report on trail connections that would improve inter-county bike trail connectivity. The list includes crossing over Pax River near Bowie, connecting WB&A sections in PG and AA. It also includes a link between Baltimore and BWI along the light rail, effectively connecting Baltimore to the B&A and WB&A. It does not, however, include a link between the ICC trail and the WB&A.

6. We heard that the legislature sent a letter indicating that the entire 18-mile ICC trail should eventually be built. MDOT reportedly responded positively. Both parties agreed that the priority is getting the highway built. Sounds similar to the MBPAC resolution, as well as recent letters from MOBIKE -- but no one had the letter. Supposedly, they'll send a copy soon.

7. GIS data is slowly being provided by counties to MBPAC so we can make a decent map.

8. The state pedestrian enhancement funds -- e.g., funds for sidewalks in towns traversed by state highways -- were eviscerated at the end of the session by the legislature. The MDOT assistant secretary told us that this was a deliberate attempt to unnecessarily cut sidewalk improvements because MDOT had the money, but was prohibited from spending it. I am a bit unclear on how that worked.

9. A rails-to-trails project in Charles County from PG to St. Mary's is being hindered by plans for a Waldorf bypass, which will use railroad right-of-way.

Free Training

Want to keep your favorite trail from being closed to horses because of mud? Want to access new areas by proposing environmentally sound ways to control erosion?

September 12-16

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, National Conservation Training Center, Shepherdstown, West Virginia

Trail Management: Plans, Projects and People

Open to everyone! Whether you're a trail rider, volunteer, a member of a "friends" group, or

a federal, state or local government employee involved with trails, this FREE training is for you! It's specifically designed for those with beginning to intermediate trail management and leadership responsibilities.

The focus of the training is the best practices of the trail management process. (The TMP is a collaborative process that includes planning, design layout, construction, maintenance, monitoring, crew leadership, interpretation, operations, and safety.) Field exercises include trail layout, construction and maintenance techniques.

Register online to ensure a seat.

Course Code: 8300-17

Registration ID: 7656

<http://www.blm.gov/nhp/index.htm> or call Catherine Book at 602-906-5590 to sign up!

Marriottsville Update - DNR

The park staff has asked us not to use the dirt path that goes from Marriottsville Road into the McKeldin area. This path is just north of the main driveway into McKeldin, and it has been heavily eroded by overuse, largely from a local riding stable. It's not part of the official trail system, and the park has attempted to close it several times, but someone keeps removing the tape across the trail.

The park has asked us to ride up the asphalt driveway or along the edge of the driveway. A better solution might be to work with the park to lay out a sustainable trail that would allow us to avoid the asphalt, since riding along the side of the entrance drive will eventually cause similar erosion, and there are some spots where the sides of the road are too steep to ride on anyway.

Equestrian Language in the Federal Highway Funding Bill

The American Horse Council reports that the House and Senate have passed different versions of H.R. 3, the reauthorization of the nation's surface transportation programs. The House and Senate have appointed conferees to address the differences in the two versions of the legislation. The confer-

ence committee has begun its effort to reconcile the two bills into one for final passage.

The Senate-passed bill includes a "shared use" language provision in Section 1607. This section specifically adds "equestrians" to the class of users that may share such paths. Under the current law, equestrians are not specifically included in the definition of allowable activities on shared use paths. Some land managers have used this oversight to deny access to equestrians, though that was never the intent of the legislation. Section 1607 of this legislation addresses this issue by including a clarification that equestrians are allowed to use shared use paths.

The Maryland conferees are Paul Sarbanes (D-MD) in the Senate and Elijah Cummings (D-MD) in the House. Please contact them and ask them to support the Senate-passed provision in Section 1607 of the bill and encourage them to contact their colleagues on the Conference Committee to support this provision. If you would like a sample draft of a letter, please visit horsecouncil.org.

If you don't know your representative or senator, or need their fax numbers, please visit www.house.gov and www.senate.gov or call the AHC at 202-296-4031.

Elections

As this newsletter goes to press, nominations for officers are still coming in. After four energetic years as president, and several more as vice president, LuAnne Levens is moving on to other ventures in the horse world. We will miss her energy and her leadership, and her unique ability to make each individual feel special.

Officers are elected from the general membership, and by the time this newsletter appears, members will have received the ballots and will have returned them. The new officers will be announced at the annual meeting and anniversary party.

Ballots will also be out to membership categories (individuals, businesses, and farms) so that each category may select its representatives on the board.

2004/2005 Executive Committee

LuAnne Levens	President; Dir./Large for Business	301-421-1252	levenslk@aol.com
Michael D. Erskine	Vice President; MAEP	301-854-5689	mikedvm@aol.com
Keith Wills	Treasurer	410-838-4242	kwills@midatlanticfarmcredit.com
Crystal Brumme Kimball	Secretary; Dir./Large for Business	410-489-7826	secretary@mdhorsecouncil.org
Alice Dibben	Recording Secretary/ Newsletter Editor	410-255-2761	adibben@juno.com

Elected General Members of the Executive Committee

Tim Capps	Maryland Jockey Club	410-792-7775 x5422	tcapps@marylandracing.com
Royce Herman	Tuckahoe Equestrian Center	410-758-2081	raherman@dmv.com
Tim Streaker	Maryland Farriers Association	410-489-5433	tjstreak@bellatlatic.net
Dorothy Troutman	MEF & Rosaryville Conservancy	301-627-1327	
Jane Seigler	PVDA & Reddemeade Stables	301-421-9064	jane@reddemeade.com

Ex-Officio Members

Sol Goldstein	Past President	410-339-6610	soljean@att.net
Elizabeth Madlener	Past President	301-963-7963	em_dressage@mindspring.com
Beverly A. Raymond	Dir./ Large Indiv; Past Treasurer	410-592-8687	