



ONE COMMON BOND—THE HORSE; ONE COMMON VOICE— MARYLAND HORSE COUNCIL

# MHC UPDATE

mdhorsecouncil.org

## ROLL CALL!

Did your organization receive an MHC report? If not, why not? Did your organization's representative even attend the MHC meetings? If they do not attend, then they will not be able to report back to you what is happening in Annapolis.

Also, MHC Board members vote to take positions on issues crucial to the Maryland equestrian community. They vote on positions related to equine slaughter, horse park, disease control, feed fund, limited liability, regulation of stables, rescues, dentists, farriers, etc. If your representative is not attending the meetings, than your organizations voice is not being represented.

## November 2005 Meeting

### Board Members Present

Christine Bricker, Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Inc.  
Amy Burk, Director-at-Large Individuals  
Darryll Ann Buschling, Director-at-Large, Youth  
Cricket Goodall, Maryland Horse Breeders Assc.  
Royce Herman, Tuckahoe Equestrian Center  
Chrissy Keys Heard, Director-at-Large, Stables  
Crystal Kimball, Director-at-Large Business and Maryland Steeplechase Assn.  
Elizabeth Madlener, Director-at-Large Individuals  
Beverly A. Raymond, Director-at-Large Individuals  
Scott Raymond, Pasadena Horse and Pony Club  
Jane Seigler, Vice President and Potomac Valley Dressage Association  
Dorothy Troutman, Maryland Equestrian Foundation/ Rosaryville Conservancy  
Guillermo Warley, New Market Middletown Valley Hounds  
Michael D. Erskine, DVM, president  
Keith Wills, treasurer

### Board Members Absent

Deanna Beal, Maryland Council of Equestrian Therapies  
Angelo Bizzarro, MD State Quarter Horse Assn.  
Monica Breland, Potomac Hunt Club  
Christy Clagett, jt-MFH, Marlborough Hounds  
Charlie Colgan, Fair Hill International  
Ann Corcoran, The Ranger Foundation, Inc.  
Jacquelyn Cowan, Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse Club  
Skip Crawford, Maryland Association for Wildlife Conservation  
Gayle Curtiss, Howard County Iron Bridge Hounds  
Kathy Dobson, League of Maryland Horsemen  
Carrie Everly, Maryland Jockey Club  
Carolyn Garber, Carroll County Equestrian Council  
Holly Hamilton, MFH, Goshen Hounds  
Jacqueline Harrington, Maryland 4-H Foundation  
Felicia Hilleary, Maryland Standardbred Breeders Assoc.  
Priscilla Huffman, Trail Riders of Today  
LuAnne Levens, Director-at-Large for Farms  
Fred Lewis, DVM, Director-at-Large for Individuals  
Alan Lohman, Maryland Horse Shows Assoc.  
Jim McDonald, Friends of Gunpowder Falls - Graham Equestrian Center  
Gayle Miller, Plantation Walking Horses of Maryland  
Gretchen Mobberley, Dir. at Large for Farm Members  
Deloise Noble-Strong, Maryland Horse Shows Assoc. Rep  
Nicky Ratliff, Humane Society of Carroll County  
Sharon Roberts, Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners Association  
Debbie Rollins Frank, Equine Rescue and Rehabilitation, Inc.  
Laura Schmitt, Director-at-Large for Businesses  
Kathleen Schwartz, Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Inc.  
Mary Anne Steele, Howard County Horse Shows Association

Tim Streaker, Maryland Farriers Association  
Judy Strohmaier, Maryland Combined Training Association  
David Turner, Mid-Atlantic Saddlebred Assoc  
Susie Webb, Washington International Horse Show  
Margaret Wilterdink, Maryland Dressage Association  
Cindy Wood, Wicomico Hunt  
Albert J.A. (Jay) Young, Elkridge Harford Hunt

## January 2006 Meeting

### Board Members Present

Christine Bricker, Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Inc.  
Amy Burk, Director-at-Large for Individuals  
Carrie Everly, Maryland Jockey Club  
Carolyn Garber, Carroll County Equestrian Council  
Cricket Goodall, Maryland Horse Breeders Assc.  
Royce Herman, Tuckahoe Equestrian Center  
Crystal Kimball, Secretary and Maryland Steeplechase Association  
Fred Lewis, DVM, Director-at-Large for Individuals  
Gretchen Mobberley, Director-at-Large for Farms  
Beverly A. Raymond, Director-at-Large for Individuals  
Debbie Rollins Frank, Equine Rescue and Rehabilitation, Inc.  
Laura Schmitt, Director-at-Large Business  
Kathleen Schwartz, Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Inc.  
Jane Seigler, Vice President and Potomac Valley Dressage Association  
Mary Anne Steele, Howard County Horse Shows Association  
Dorothy Troutman, Maryland Equestrian Foundation/ Rosaryville Conservancy  
David Turner, Mid-Atlantic Saddlebred Assoc  
Guillermo Warley, New Market Middletown Valley Hounds  
Michael D. Erskine, DVM, president  
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Monica Breland, Potomac Hunt Club  
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Christy Clagett, jt-MFH, Marlborough Hounds  
Charlie Colgan, Fair Hill International  
Ann Corcoran, The Ranger Foundation, Inc.  
Jacquelyn Cowan, Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse Club  
Skip Crawford, Maryland Association for Wildlife Conservation  
Gayle Curtiss, Howard County Iron Bridge Hounds  
Kathy Dobson, League of Maryland Horsemen  
Holly Hamilton, MFH, Goshen Hounds  
Jacqueline Harrington, Maryland 4-H Foundation  
Felicia Hilleary, Maryland Standardbred Breeders Assoc.  
Priscilla Huffman, Trail Riders of Today  
Chrissy Keys Heard, Director-at-Large for Farms Oatland  
LuAnne Levens, Director-at-Large for Farms Periwinkle Farm  
Alan Lohman, Maryland Horse Shows Assoc.  
Elizabeth Madlener, Dir. at Large Individual Members  
Jim McDonald, Friends of Gunpowder Falls - Graham Equestrian Center  
Gayle Miller, Plantation Walking Horses of Maryland  
Deloise Noble-Strong, Maryland Horse Shows Assoc. Rep  
Nicky Ratliff, Humane Society of Carroll County  
Scott Raymond, Pasadena Horse and Pony Club  
Sharon Roberts, Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners Association  
Tim Streaker, Maryland Farriers Association  
Judy Strohmaier, Maryland Combined Training Association  
Susie Webb, Washington International Horse Show  
Margaret Wilterdink, Maryland Dressage Association  
Cindy Wood, Wicomico Hunt  
Albert J.A. (Jay) Young, Elkridge Harford Hunt

*Disclaimer: This column is sponsored by the Maryland Horse Council. The views expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of The Equiery's publisher or staff.*

## From the President

The Maryland Horse Park, proposed to be built on the former Naval Academy dairy farm near Annapolis, was not included in the Governor's budget this session. It continues to face opposition from some local residents as well as from some Anne Arundel County government officials. There are also competing proposals for use of the property including a sand and gravel mine operation. What can we do?

The Maryland Horse Council has created a Maryland Horse Park Fund to receive contributions for lobbying, public education and other costs to promote the Maryland Horse Park on the Naval Academy property (or on another site in that general area, if the original proposal falls through). Your contributions of money and support will help to bring the good story of the Maryland Horse Park forward. And it is a good story. It is a wonderful resource for the Maryland horse community to be sure, but its economic benefits on the local businesses are substantial. And as local concerns are considered, which they should be, the plans have proved to be flexible. The Maryland Horse Park is a perfect opportunity for the horse industry to demonstrate its positive vision to the public. And we need your help.

The Maryland Horse Council also carefully monitored the neurologic Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) outbreak that occurred at Pimlico Race Course, Laurel Park and a private horse farm in Kent County. At the January 2006 MHC Quarterly Board of Directors meeting, State Veterinarian Dr. Guy Hohenhaus gave a detailed presentation explaining the disease outbreak and the plans to manage it. He indicated that his office had consulted with other states and veterinary experts to develop plans for diagnostic testing and control measures. They were also employing methods and procedures that had been developed during the 2005 EHV-1 outbreak in Columbia, Maryland.

The MHC efforts go beyond monitoring situations. Following the 2005 EHV-1 outbreak in Columbia, MHC representatives helped to define a Horse Health Advisory Committee to advise the Maryland Horse Industry Board. In this capacity, the committee would work directly with the State Veterinarian's office, or any other necessary entity, to address issues of horse health. This committee was finally appointed in March 2006, following a not so gentle push from our very own MHC secretary Crystal Kimball. The committee will participate, along with private veterinarians and others, with the State Veterinarian's office to study the response to the 2006 EHV-1 outbreak.

The Maryland Horse Council is also partnering with the University of Maryland to provide a Biosecurity Seminar for horse owners this summer. The term, biosecurity, sounds like something large scale agricultural production operations and government agencies might be concerned with. But as we become more aware of the potential for disease to spread widely and quickly, the need for individual efforts become clear. We all can benefit from learning methods and practices to lower the risks of disease.

The Maryland Horse Council had a busy winter. We look forward to a productive spring as we continue to strengthen the MHC. We are in need of volunteers and new leaders to shape and influence the future of the MHC. The Maryland horse industry needs and deserves an effective organization like the Maryland Horse Council. Our success depends on our efforts. It is up to all of us to have that positive impact. Please join us in those efforts.

—Michael D. Erskine, DVM

## Trails & Greenways Meetings 2006

### April 5th, Wednesday, 7 pm

Host Clubs: TROT and LOMH

Location: League of Maryland Horsemen, Marriottsville MD

Topic: "Join a Trail Riding Club, Meet Other Trail Riders, and Horse Camping Demo"

Contact: Priscilla Huffman, PWHuffman@aol.com, (301) 351-6211

See below for more info!

### July 12, Wednesday, 7 pm

Host Club: Tuckahoe Equestrian Center

Location: TEC Club House, Ridgely MD

Topic: "The Politics of DNR Wildlife Management Areas: What are they? How are WMA's Used by Hunters and Trail Riders?"

Contact: Royce Herman, raherman@dmv.com, (410)758-2081

### Oct 11, Wednesday, 7 pm

Host Club: Southern Maryland Trail Riders

Location: TBA

Topic: TBA

Contact: Tomi' Finkle, TFinkle@erols.com, 301-412-5249 (cell), 202-358-1613 (work)

### Other Important Dates:

#### Aug 3-5 Southeastern Equestrian Trails Conference

Roanoke, VA

<http://www.southeasternequestriantrails.com/>

#### April 5 Equestrian Trails Meeting (Day and Overnight) & Camping Gear Demo

What Rides Do You Have Planned For 2006?

Planning to host a ride?

Want to join other rides, go to new places?

Then attend the statewide Trails Meeting!

#### Wednesday April 5th, 6 p.m.

Maryland Horse Council Trails and Greenways Meeting & Camping Gear Demo

League of Maryland Horsemen

Marriottsville, Maryland

#### Meeting

Several clubs will be giving short presentations on the trail rides they have planned for 2006. We will have an opportunity to learn more about TROT (Trail Riders of Today), the Tuckahoe Equestrian Center (they have a horse camp on the Eastern Shore), and the Chesapeake and Plantation Walking Horse clubs. Every club has something different to offer, and many of us belong to several clubs. This is a great opportunity for you to network and make new trail riding friends throughout the state.

If you would like to give a short presentation on a ride you are hosting, please contact Peggy Bree, via e-mail, before the meeting: [bree@riva.net](mailto:bree@riva.net)

#### Camping Gear Demo 6 p.m.

The Red Hat Riders will provide a demonstration of camping equipment on the grounds at 6 pm. Experienced campers will display different styles of picket lines, portable corrals, living quarters trails, and other equipment that makes camping more comfortable, safe, and fun. At 7:30 we'll gather in the Clubhouse for our general meeting. Hope to see everyone there!

The league's web-site is <http://www.lomh.net/>

Their address is 8067 Henryton Rd, Marriottsville MD, 21104

#### Driving directions:

From Baltimore, take I-70 West to Exit 83, Marriottsville Road, bearing right (North) onto Marriottsville Road.

From Washington, take Rt 29-N to I-70 West, getting off at Exit 83, Marriottsville Road, bearing right (North) onto Marriottsville Road.

From Marriottsville Rd. at I-70, continue past the Route 99 (Old Frederick Road) intersection, approximately 2.5 miles.

Cross over the railroad tracks and the Patapsco River bridge, making the first left onto Henryton Road.

Go uphill approximately 0.6 miles, then turn right at the LOMH sign, following the long, winding driveway to the clubhouse.

Are you connected? Please join one of these groups so we can reach you with important news.

- To chat about Maryland Trails: [MarylandTrailRiders@yahoo.com](mailto:MarylandTrailRiders@yahoo.com)
- To read Maryland Trail Riders messages on-line: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MarylandTrailRiders/>
- To send and read trail news from the Maryland Horse Council: [MHC-TG@yahoo.com](mailto:MHC-TG@yahoo.com)
- To read MHC Trails and Greenways messages on-line: <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/MHC-TG/>

# Capitol Hill Report

from the American Horse Council

## URGENT: Please Contact Your Senators Supporting Comprehensive Immigration Reform

On December 16, 2006, the House of Representatives passed "The Border Protection, Antiterrorism and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005" (H.R. 4437), introduced by Representative James Sensenbrenner. This legislation focuses mainly on an "enforcement first" approach to immigration and foreign workers in an effort to tighten our borders and implement strict enforcement policies against illegal immigrants and American employers responsible for hiring them.

Many employers in the horse industry see comprehensive immigration/guest worker reform as a way to legitimize their workforce and meet their labor demands. The enforcement-only approach taken by the House of Representatives could have severe adverse effects on the horse industry and those local communities dependent upon their business.

"The American Horse Council supports border security, but we are concerned the 'enforcement first' approach adopted by the House may overwhelm the attempt at needed, broader immigration reform," said Jay Hickey, President of the American Horse Council. "If this bill became law, it would place heavy fines and penalties on employers who do not comply, but would not deal with the difficult compliance issues now in effect."

The key provisions of the bill that would affect U.S. employers in the horse industry are:

- Absence of a guest worker provision to streamline the process or adjustment of status provisions for undocumented workers, which could result in a labor shortage and the loss of experienced employees.
- Employer penalties for hiring undocumented workers would be substantially increased. The minimum penalty per illegal alien under the bill would be \$5,000 for a first offense, \$10,000 for a second offense and \$25,000 for a third.
- After two years, all U.S. employers would be required to use a costly and burdensome telephonic and electronic verification system to determine a worker's employment eligibility. Failure to use the system would subject employers to the higher penalties.
- Employers would have to meet recruited individuals face-to-face and undertake the electronic verification procedures before they could even recruit the workers. In many cases, this would require the U.S. employer to travel to a foreign country to interview all prospective employees or otherwise face a \$5,000 fine per worker.

"We expect the Senate to make immigration reform a key issue in the upcoming weeks and months," said Hickey. "It is crucial that the Senate hear from the horse industry about the need for comprehensive immigration reform that includes a practical foreign-worker program."

## Don't Miss The Spring Meeting!

Open to All Members & Guests

Tuesday, May 16

Meet & Greet Reception 6 p.m • Meeting 7 p.m.

Maryland Department of Agriculture  
Annapolis, Maryland

Make sure your organization is officially represented at the Spring Meeting. If your official rep can not attend, either the rep or an officer from the organization needs to contact MHC with the name of the alternate. You can e-mail the information to secretary@mdhorsecouncil.org or call 410-489-7826 and leave a message for the secretary.

Personalized letters and phone calls are effective ways to have your voice heard by your Senators and influence this important debate. Attached is a sample letter to Senators that we encourage you to personalize and fax to your Senator's Washington, D.C. office. We have also attached talking points for you to include with letters and/or to use if you are able to meet with or call your Senator's offices to encourage them to adopt comprehensive reform. If you need contact information for your Senators, please visit [www.senate.gov](http://www.senate.gov) or call the AHC.

Your input does make a difference and the outcome of this issue will have a significant impact on the horse industry. Please act now. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the American Horse Council at (202) 296-4031.

We would like to keep track of which Senators have been contacted so that we can follow up accordingly. After faxing a letter to your Senators, please fax us a copy of the letter at (202) 296-4031 or send an email to [dmyers@horsecouncil.org](mailto:dmyers@horsecouncil.org). We have posted talking points and additional information at [www.horsecouncil.org](http://www.horsecouncil.org).

## MHC Officers & Executive Committee

The Executive Committee meets monthly.

President: Michael D. Erskine, DVM, 301-829-4977 [mikedvm@aol.com](mailto:mikedvm@aol.com)  
 Vice President, Jane Seigle 301-421-9064, [jane@reddemeade.com](mailto:jane@reddemeade.com)  
 Treasurer: Keith Wills, 410-838-4242, [kwills@midatlanticfarmcredit.com](mailto:kwills@midatlanticfarmcredit.com)  
 Secretary: Crystal Kimbal 410-489-7826, [secretary@mdhorsecouncil.org](mailto:secretary@mdhorsecouncil.org)  
 Tim Capps, 410-366-4780, [timothy\\_capps@yahoo.com](mailto:timothy_capps@yahoo.com)  
 Alice Dibben, 410-255-2761 [adibben@juno.com](mailto:adibben@juno.com)  
 Royce Herman, 410-758-2081 [raherman@dmv.com](mailto:raherman@dmv.com)  
 Beverly A. Raymond, 410-592-8687  
 Tim Streaker, 410-489-5433 [trstreak@hotmail.com](mailto:trstreak@hotmail.com)  
 Dorothy Troutman, 301-627-1327



Maryland  
Horse  
Council  
2006

- Association—\$100/year
- Farm—\$60/year
- Business—\$60/year
- Individual—\$35/year
- Youth Club—\$10/year

Serving the Industry Serving You

### INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP—\$1,000 one-time fee

Open to any private entity, corporation, or for a state, county or other municipal agency, department, service or office that wishes to support the Maryland equestrian industry. Membership shall be a one time fee of \$1,000. Payment shall entitle the institution to designate one or more individuals to serve in an advisory (non-voting) capacity to the Council.

Name (Assoc./Business/Farm/Youth Club/Individual) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

If Assoc., Representative to Serve as MHC Board Member \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Website \_\_\_\_\_

Mail w/ check payable to:  
Maryland Horse Council • P.O. Box 233 • Lisbon, MD 21765