



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

MHC UPDATE

mdhorsecouncil.org

THE POLITICAL HORSEMAN

by Royce Herman

We don't live in a democracy!

Heresy! Yikes! What is this man saying? Well, folks, now that I have your attention, we really don't live in a democracy. We actually live in a constitutional republic. Although there are many democratic principals incorporated into our system, pure democracy is really an abstract concept. The republic that we all hold so dear is shaped by a constitution that limits the power of government and also guarantees certain rights to all citizens. We, the citizens, control this process by periodically going to the polls to choose who we want to make the decisions that affect our lives.

OK, OK – so we're back to the voting bit again. I can't emphasize enough how important this concept is. There are people in this world who are willing to die trying to vote, while many horse people in this wonderful free country of ours don't even bother.

One thing that I've heard quite often lately is, "I don't like either candidate, so why should I vote?" Or, here's one for you: "I'm a Democrat and I don't like the party's candidate, and I couldn't possibly vote for a Republican" (or the other way around). Now, I want to make one thing clear right now. None of us in the horse council will ever be so arrogant as to try to tell you how to vote. Voting must be a personal thing. But it seems silly to me to vote for someone who could (or will) make you worse off, just because he or she belongs to a certain party. Some people actually believe that if they are registered with a certain party, then they have to vote that way. Folks, you can vote any way you choose, regardless of you political registration. What we all need to be asking

ourselves is, "What is this candidate going to do for ME?" Or, in some cases, "What's this candidate going to do TO me?" It's high time to throw party line voting out the window. If you ask yourself, "Will this candidate make me and my horses better off?" and the answer is "No," then why in the world would you vote to make yourself worse off?

It's time for the horse industry to vote its sport. This is the only way we are ever going to get things like slots or the Horse Park. If you don't know how a particular candidate stands on an issue that concerns you, then call that candidate and ask him. A candidate should be glad to tell you how he stands on any issue. If you don't know the candidate's phone number, check the phone book or call his party – or, if all else fails, e-mail me at raherman@dmv.com and I'll find it for you.

Whether you vote for a person or not, calling a candidate has a real benefit. It tells him that you care about the horse industry. He will remember these concerns when it comes time to vote on our issues. A good example is the "Right To Ride" bill that has been introduced in the U.S. House and Senate. Little or nothing has been heard from the horse people on this, so it's stalled in committee. They think we don't care. Write or call your congressman and senator, folks. You CAN make a difference. And if you think that your one little vote doesn't matter, just remember what happened in Florida in the 2000 election. Of all the millions of votes cast, a thousand or so in Florida elected a president. So you can make a difference. See ya' all next time!



Maryland Horse Council

2006

Serving the Industry Serving You

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

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

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—THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—

The Maryland Horse Council is the umbrella organization for all horse organizations in Maryland. The board of directors consists of one representative from each member organization, as well as directors-at-large who represent the individual, farm and business memberships, and youth groups. The board of directors, which meets quarterly, elects the officers and the executive committee, which serves as the steering committee for the council, meeting monthly and conferring regularly to oversee housekeeping and planning issues for MHC. They are your representatives. Please feel free to voice your concerns or opinions to them, whether or not you are a member of MHC. MHC is here to serve the entire Maryland horse community.

Note to board members: Keep an eye out for ballots to vote for two new members of the executive committee. If you think you would like to serve on the committee, please contact Amy Burk at 301-405-8337 or amyburk@umd.edu.

President: Michael Erskine

Mike Erskine has been involved with horses since 1969. He actively participated in pony club, 4-H and Quarter Horses. A 1988 graduate of the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine, he served as a racetrack veterinarian in Pennsylvania for two years before moving back to Maryland, where he joined Damascus Equine Associates. He is a member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners, as well as a Diplomat in the American Board of Veterinary Practitioners, where he is board certified in equine practice. He is a past president of the Maryland Veterinary Medical Association and serves on the board of the Maryland Association of Equine Practitioners, serving as the MAEP representative to the Maryland Horse Council for over three years. He is also a member of the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center Advisory Council. He still manages to find time to go out periodically with the Howard County-Iron Bridge Hounds.

17716 Quail Covey, Woodbine, MD 21797; phone 301-854-5689; fax 301-854-5687; mikedvm@aol.com

Vice President: Jane Seigler

A graduate of Brown University and Rutgers University Law School, Jane completed a judicial clerkship with the D.C. Court of Appeals before entering private practice. After 13 years as an anti-trust and utility litigator with Wald, Harkrader & Ross, and Pepper, Hamilton & Scheetz, and then as government affairs counsel with the Government Affairs Office of Waste Management Inc. in Washington, D.C., Jane "retired" from active practice to become full-time chief operating officer of Reddemeade Farm, Inc. Jane also teaches lessons, and rides, trains and competes in dressage at the Federation Equestre Internationale level. Jane served on the Potomac Valley Dressage Association board of directors for nine years (including two as chairman and two as vice president) and is a current member of Montgomery County's Agricultural Advisory Committee.

1701 Ednor Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20905; phone 301-421-4481; jane@reddemeade.com

Treasurer: Keith Wills

Keith Wills has been involved with horses for the past 14 years, enjoys trail riding, and is a member of the American Quarter Horse Association. In addition to his work for the Maryland Horse Council, Keith is the vice president of the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, a land preservation organization participating in the Rural Legacy program to preserve historic and cultural sites, as well as provide watershed planning. He is also on the board of directors for the Baltimore County Farm Bureau. Professionally, he is an account executive, commercial division for the venerable agricultural institution MidAtlantic Farm Credit ACA. Keith is also an avid sporting clay

shooter and a member of the National Sporting Clays Association.

1614 Churchville Road, Suite 102, P.O. Box 648; Bel Air, MD 21015; phone 410-838-4242; fax 410-434-5584; kwills@mafco.com

Secretary: Crystal Kimball

Crystal Kimball is the owner and publisher of *The Equiery*. In addition to her articles in *The Equiery*, which have been reprinted in numerous other publications, her writing has appeared in the *United States Combined Training Association News*, *Sidelines*, *The Cecil Whig*, *Steeplechase Times*, and *The Chronicle of the Horse*. In college, she rode on the University of Maryland equestrian team, and has been involved with hunters, combined training, dressage, and foxchasing. She has served as secretary for the MHC since 1994, and is an under-chair of the Maryland Horsemen's Party. She has been a member of MHC since 1991, and serves on the board of directors as a director-at-large representing the business membership. She also serves as secretary for the Maryland Steeplechase Association, technical advisor to the Maryland Horse Industry Board, is a member of the MD Future Farmers of America Foundation Inc. board of trustees, and is a graduate of the LEAD Maryland program.

P.O. Box 651, Lisbon, MD 21765; phone 410-489-7826; fax 410-489-7828; secretary@mdhorsecouncil.com

Recording Secretary: Alice Dibben

Alice Dibben is the editor of the Maryland Horse Council newsletter, which is published quarterly and mailed out to members. Her experience with horses dates back to the 1960s, when her daughter fell in love with them, got her own pony, and the family moved to a small farm in Pasadena. Alice took lessons and rode all over the peninsula until the old farms turned into developments and county parks where no horses were allowed. She was instrumental in forming the Pasadena Horse and Pony Association, which provides equestrian activities in the area and has succeeded in getting horseback riding designated a lawful activity in some of the local parks. After retirement from the National Security Agency, Alice became active in Thoroughbred breeding, training, and racing.

Sandhill Farm, 4748 Mountain Road, Pasadena, MD 21122; phone and fax 410-255-2761; adibben@juno.com

Elected Member: Tim Capps

Tim Capps is a former executive vice president of the Maryland Jockey Club, following a six-year stint as executive vice president of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association. His first job after graduation with a Master of Science degree in finance from George Washington University was managing the horse racing database development for the Jockey Club in New York. After a brief sabbatical from the horse industry as a Wall Street money manager, Tim returned to the industry as editor and publisher of the weekly news

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magazine *The Thoroughbred Record*. From there, he moved to vice president of Matchmaker Racing Services and the Maryland Jockey Club. At the MHBA, he was responsible for the administration of the Maryland-bred Fund, the publication of the *Mid-Atlantic Thoroughbred* magazine, and management of the Maryland Million. Tim is currently an industry consultant working with clients on marketing and promotional strategies, and issues management in areas such as account waging and strategic planning. He has served on the MHC board of directors since 1995.

2603 North Charles St, Baltimore, MD 21218; phone 410-366-4780; timothy_capps@yahoo.com

This seat is up for re-election.

Elected Member: Royce Herman

Before joining the executive committee, Royce served on the MHC board of directors for seven years as the representative for Tuckahoe Equestrian Center. A native of Delaware, Royce graduated from Keystone College in 1966 and the University of Delaware in 1971, and has spent the last 32 years in food service marketing (the last 20 with Sysco Corporation). He rode extensively as a youngster, and while working a dairy farm, competing in rodeos as a teenager and returning to horses with his wife after the kids were "up and out." They are primarily involved in trail riding, cowboy mounted shooting, and mounted reenactments. Royce is a national competitor in bulls-eye pistol shooting, and runs a side business as a professional gunsmith, also teaching hunting safety for the State of Maryland. In addition to Tuckahoe, he belongs to the Cowboy Mounted Shooters Association, the National Rifle Association, the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the Single Action Shooting Society.

P.O. Box 513, Centreville, MD 21617; phone 410-758-2081; raherman@dmv.com

Elected Member: Tim Streaker

Tim Streaker grew up around Thoroughbred racing and was an active 4-Her and pony clubber. Today, he is a farrier in good standing with the American Farrier's Association and the current president of the Maryland Farrier's Association (which he represents on the MHC board of directors).

13720 Rt. 144, West Friendship, MD 21794; phone 410-489-5433; cell 410-241-9480; trstreaker@hotmail.com

Elected Member: Dorothy Troutman

Dorothy Troutman is considered to be a quiet but vital force within the Maryland horse industry. She is the founder and president of the Maryland Equestrian Foundation, which had an integral role in the creation of the Rosaryville Conservancy and the Marlborough Horse Trials. She is a director for the Maryland Association for the Preservation of Equestrian Sports, and a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee for the Prince George's Equestrian Center. Through her work with the Prince George's County Council Park and Planning Board, Mrs. Troutman works tirelessly to protect open spaces and trails for equestrian use, and to provide facilities for showing and eventing. At the core of Mrs. Troutman's efforts is her conviction that the horse industry and equestrian events are assets not only to Prince George's County, but to the entire state.

6406 S. Osborne Road, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772; phone/fax 301-627-1327

Ex-Officio Member: Sol Goldstein

Sol Goldstein has been an independent life insurance broker since 1957, and has received numerous awards of excellence from

the industry. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. Sol brings a wealth of community service experience to the horse council, having served on civic boards, including – but not limited to – the Baltimore Urban League, the Ecumenical Drug Abuse Program, Civic Works Inc., the Jewish Labor Committee of Greater Baltimore, the Metropolitan Athletic Association, the Maryland Bar Grievance Committee Review Board, the Speakers Bureau for the Associated Jewish Charities and Welfare Fund, and many, many more. He is an active pleasure horse owner, a past president of the Plantation Walking Horse Association of Maryland, and helped create the MHC Trails & Greenways Committee. Sol served as MHC vice president for five years, MHC president for two years, and has served on the board of directors representing the Plantation Walking Horses of Maryland.

1300 York Road, Ste. 200, Lutherville, MD 21093; phone 410-339-6610; fax 410-823-6543

Ex-Officio Member: Elizabeth Madlener

A past president of MHC, Elizabeth Madlener was instrumental in moving the association forward in a more formal and organized manner, which has allowed it to be more productive and functional. A Grand Prix dressage rider and trainer who was once long-listed with the U.S. Equestrian Team, Elizabeth has trained several horses and students to AHSA (now United States Equestrian Federation)/United States Dressage Federation year-end awards -- from First Level through Grand Prix -- and has also served as an AHSA (now USEF) judge. For 10 years, she operated the Maryland Horse Center in Gaithersburg, and was active on numerous USDF committees. Today, she is busy locally as a freelance trainer/instructor, and nationally as a clinician and judge. She is also a frequent contributor to *Dressage Today*. Elizabeth serves as the MHC representative on the Maryland Horse Industry Board.

274 Bayard Rd., Lothian, MD 20711; phone 410-867-0764; em_dressage@mindspring.com

Ex-Officio Member: Beverly Raymond

Professionally, Beverly Raymond is one of the two stable inspectors for the Maryland Department of Agriculture, a position she has held since 1978. In addition, she is an inspector of veterinary hospitals for the State Board of Veterinary Medicine. She has operated a licensed stable, is a licensed veterinary technician, and has studied at the University of Missouri's Cruelty Investigators School. She is also the MDA Coordinator for the "Maryland, You're Beautiful" program at the state fair, a member of the Professional Animal Workers Society, and has served on numerous civic committees. Beverly has been involved with horses since childhood, and has done a little of everything, including showing, eventing, Western games and drill teams, with a variety of breeds, including Thoroughbreds, Quarter Horses, Standardbreds, and gaited horses. She was one of the first members of the Department of Natural Resources Volunteer Mounted Patrol. One of the still-active original members of MHC, Beverly has also served as treasurer for three presidents. Currently, she is a MHC director-at-large for individual members.

50 Harry S Truman Pkwy, Annapolis, MD 21401; phone 410-841-5822; fax 410-841-5999 ■