



MHC UPDATE

mdhorsecouncil.org

New Year's Letter from the President

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season, and I wish you all a happy and healthy New Year. I am pleased to report on the Maryland Horse Council's continued progress toward an exciting future. I thank our many volunteers for their time and expertise, and I invite anyone else who wants to contribute his or her talents in the coming year to contact us.

As the Maryland Horse Council implements its new future, our highest priority has been to find an excellent association management company to assist us in our administrative obligations and to allow our volunteers to concentrate on the benefits, services and impact of the Maryland Horse Council. I am very proud to welcome Vanessa Finney and Quercus Inc. The entire executive committee was immediately convinced that Vanessa was exactly what we needed. She is an enthusiastic professional willing to assist the Maryland Horse Council through these important transitional years -- and Quercus Inc has the depth of services and managerial expertise to allow the council to grow. I thank Vanessa and look forward to working with her.

We also have two educational seminars planned. The Equine Business Seminar will focus on the importing and exporting of horses in addition to other business topics. It will be held Feb. 7 at the Maryland Department of Agriculture in Annapolis. The Equine Health Seminar will focus on laminitis and will be held March 17 at the Glenwood Community Center in Glenwood. Both of these seminars promise to provide authoritative and timely information of interest to Maryland's horse community. As an added benefit to Maryland Horse Council members, please note your discounted registration fee. I hope that many of you will join us at these seminars. I believe that seminars like these will be important to the Maryland Horse Council as we work to increase our impact and fulfill our goals.

As you can see, the Maryland Horse Council has been very busy. We are making determined steps toward an exciting future. Our guiding principle is to build upon the successes of the past in order to enhance the ability of the council to benefit Maryland's horse community in the future. These steps are not taken without some trepidation. They involve the commitment of significant time and money, both of which are in limited supply. I have always viewed our membership as our greatest resource. I encourage you to participate fully in the Maryland Horse Council. By attending seminars, volunteering, promoting the Maryland Horse Council to others, and providing comments and feedback, you help to strengthen the council. It is, after all, your Maryland Horse Council.

I would like to close by congratulating Tim Capps on his new position at the University of Louisville. Tim has been a critical resource to the executive committee -- and especially this president -- for many years. He could always be counted upon to give thoughtful insights into the many challenges and initiatives of the Maryland Horse Council. Our loss is Kentucky's gain, and I wish Tim all success in his new endeavor. Thanks, Tim.

-- Michael Erskine, DVM, DABVP
President, Maryland Horse Council

Farm Bureau Convention Report

Pam Saul and Keith Wills submitted this report from the 2006 Maryland Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and Convention Dec. 3-6 in Ocean City. Pam, of Rolling Acres Farm in Brookeville, was the Maryland Horse Council's representative. Keith, the Maryland Horse Council treasurer, also attended the convention as a representative for Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit. In addition, both are in the two-year LEAD Maryland program, which works to promote agricultural leadership in Maryland. (Past MHC representatives in LEAD include Equiery publisher Crystal Brumme Kimball, a member of Class II.)

The Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and Convention officially opened on Monday afternoon with a parade of flags from each Maryland county. The day continued with an address from President Earl Hance, as well as presentations from Nationwide, Miss Maryland Agriculture, the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, and others.

Policy Consideration

On Monday night, LEAD members met with board members and guests over an enjoyable dinner.

The tough work of policy consideration at both the national and state levels began on Tuesday. The discussion of issues occurs among members of the farming community, with recommendations coming from that community. Each county submits recommendations for resolutions and these, in turn, are sent on to the state. The recommendations are then voted upon by the convention members for possible inclusion into the policy resolutions used by Farm Bureau for the upcoming legislative session.

This is vital to the equine industry, as there is a section in the policies specifically for our industry. There are policies addressing inclusion in any future Maryland Department of Agriculture and National Agricultural Statistics Service surveys, support for the recognition of equines as part of the agricultural industry, support for any lesson programs, boarding or training to be considered part of a normal agriculture practice, and support to improve the Maryland Bred Program. Farm Bureau also supports the Maryland Horse Park and the establishment of a permanent, federally operated import/export quarantine facility in the state of Maryland. This year, there were no changes to policies.

Riley Retires

The group was addressed by Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Lewis Riley, who announced his retirement.

The annual dinner and awards banquet occurred on Tuesday night. The live auction benefited the Maryland Farm Bureau Scholarship Fund and the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation. It was a spirited affair, with over \$4,000 made for the scholarship fund and MAEF.

The policy considerations concluded on Wednesday. Department of Natural Resources Secretary Ron Franks detailed the past year's accomplishments and told the audience what to expect next season. He also talked about the upcoming legislative session and areas that will be important to the agricultural community in the future.

If you're interested in attending next year's Farm Bureau Convention, the Maryland Horse Council is looking for a delegate!

**Don't Miss MHC's Seminars!
International Business – Feb. 7
Equine Health – March 17
www.mdhorsecouncil.org**

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.

(continued)

Elected Member: Amy Burk

Dr. Amy Burk is an assistant professor and extension horse specialist in the Department of Animal and Avian Sciences at the University of Maryland. She serves as the coordinator for the undergraduate equine studies track and graduate equine research program. Dr. Burk teaches courses on horse management and equine science, gives presentations to members of the horse industry in the Mid-Atlantic region, and conducts equine nutrition research. Dr. Burk grew up in Anne Arundel County, riding in the Linthicum 4-H Hi-Riders and the St. Margaret's Pony Club. She earned an M.S. (1998) and Ph.D. (2001) in Animal Nutrition from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Dr. Burk's equine hobby is training for and competing in the sport of eventing.

1117 Animal Science Center, College Park, MD 20742, phone 301-405-8337; fax 301-405-8831; amyburk@umd.edu

Elected Member: Cricket Goodall

A Baltimore County native with a B.A. in Communications (Magna Cum Laude) from the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Cricket Goodall is Executive Director of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association and Maryland Million Ltd., two non-profit trade associations that promote the Thoroughbred horse breeding industry in Maryland. Her experience includes showing and working with Thoroughbreds at the racetrack, on the farm and at the sales, not to mention working for the Maryland Horse Breeders Association since 1986. A past board member of the Chesapeake Festivals and Events Association, she is also on the board of the Baltimore County Agricultural Resource Center and owns a small farm with retired horses and assorted animals.

P.O. Box 427; 30 East Padonia Road, Suite 303, Timonium, MD 21094, phone (410) 252-2100; cricket@marylandthoroughbred.com

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 and 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 become 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; emdressage@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 ■



Maryland Horse Council

2007

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



The Maryland Horse Council

presents
1st Annual Equine Health Seminar

Saturday, March 17, 2007
8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.



Glenwood Community Center
2400 Route 97 • Glenwood, MD 21723

2007 Featured Topic: Equine Laminitis

This seminar will provide a comprehensive review of this devastating disease. An update of the latest concepts about common causes and risk factors will be presented. These will include Equine Metabolic Syndrome (Insulin Resistance) and Equine Cushings Disease. Practical strategies to reduce your horse's risk of laminitis will also be discussed. The lectures will be presented by distinguished experts and researchers in the areas of equine internal medicine and equine nutrition. Please join us to learn what you can do to protect your horse.

Featured speakers include:

Ray Geor, BVSc, PhD

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine • Director of Research
The Paul Mellon Distinguished Professor of Agriculture
Middleburg Agricultural Research and Extension Center • Virginia Tech

Amy Burk, PhD

Horse Extension Specialist • AGNR-Animal and Avian Sciences • University of Maryland, College Park

Plus a lunchtime guest speaker on establishing United States Department of Agriculture-approved quarantine facilities in Maryland

Please see the website for additional speakers.

REGISTRATION: \$45 (only \$25 for members of the Maryland Horse Council) INCLUDES LUNCH!
Deadline March 1st

NAME: _____

BUSINESS/FARM: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Payment may be made with a check and mailed to:

Maryland Horse Council
P.O. Box 233 • Lisbon, MD 21765

Or you can fax your registration with a MasterCard or Visa:

Card Number: _____

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Signature: _____

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FAX: 410-489-7828

For more information, please contact
Dr. Mike Erskine at 301-829-4977
or mikedvm@aol.com

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