



# MHC UPDATE

mdhorsecouncil.org

## The Board of Directors Meeting of the Maryland Horse Council Tuesday, August 21, 2007 • Frederick County Fairgrounds

### Officers, Staff & Directors\* Present

- President: Mike Erskine
- Vice President: Jane Seigler
- Treasurer: Keith Wills
- Kathleen Schwartz - Days End Farm Rescue, Inc.
- Dr. Amy Burk - Director At Large for Individual Members
- Steuart Pittman - Director At Large for Farms
- Gretchen Mobberley - Director At Large for Farms
- Darryll Ann Buschling - Director At Large for Youth
- Holly Hamilton - Goshen Hounds
- Mary Anne Steele - Howard County Horse Show Association
- Nicky Ratliff - Humane Society of Carroll County
- Kathy Dobson - League of Maryland Horsemen
- Patty Sasscer - Maryland Association of Wildlife Conservation
- Cricket Goodall - Maryland Horse Breeders Association
- Terry Christensen - Maryland State Quarter Horse Association
- Christine Bricker - Maryland Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association
- Guillermo Warley - New Market-Middleton Valley Hounds
- Monica Breland - Potomac Hunt Club
- Mardee Rochelle - Potomac Valley Dressage Association
- Elizabeth Yewell - P.G. Equestrian Center, Showplace Arena
- Ann Corcoran - The Ranger Foundation, Inc.
- Priscilla Huffman - Trail Riders of Today
- Royce Herman - Tuckahoe Equestrian Center

### Directors\* Absent

- Crystal Kimball - Secretary & Director At Large for Businesses
- Joseph Zentgraf - Carroll County Equestrian Council

- Sharon Roberts - Cloverleaf Standard bred Owners Association
- Michelle Jennings - Director At Large - Businesses
- Vicki O'Hara - Director At Large Individuals
- Beverly A. Raymond - Director At Large Individuals
- VACANT - Elkridge Harford Hunt
- Debbie Rollins Frank - Equine Rescue and Rehabilitation, Inc.
- Charlie Colgan - Fair Hill International, Inc.
- Jim McDonald - Graham Equestrian Center, Inc.
- VACANT - Howard County-Iron Bridge Hounds
- Christy Claggett - Marlborough Hounds
- Cathy Tucker-Slaterbeck - Maryland Combined Training Association
- Jacqueline Harrington - Maryland 4-H Foundation
- Margaret Wilterdink - Maryland Dressage Association
- Dorothy Troutman - Maryland Equestrian Foundation/Rosaryville Conservancy
- Tim Streaker - Maryland Farriers Association
- Deloise Noble-Strong - Maryland Horse Shows Association
- Carrie Everly - Maryland Jockey Club
- Felicia Hilleary - Maryland Standardbred Breeders Association
- David Turner - Mid-Atlantic Saddlebred Assoc
- Gayle Miller - Plantation Walking Horses of Maryland
- Susie Webb - Washington International Horse Show
- Cindy Wood - Wicomico Hunt

### MHC Trails & Greenways Committee Update

-Peggy Bree (soon to be retired committee chair)

I've been encouraging the clubs to network. People are already signing up for the Fall Invitational at the League of Maryland Horsemen on Oct 12-14. Tuckahoe Equestrian Center has set April 19-20 as the dates for the Spring Invitational. Maryland Trail Riders on-line just got its 300th member, and I now get several requests every week from people who want to join.

The Southeastern Equestrian Trail Conference in Knoxville was a big success. Pat Oliva joined me as a representative from TROT.

First, and perhaps the most important is the question of who will represent trail riders at a national level. There are several groups out there, including the AHC's State Horse Council Recreation Advisory Committee (SHCRAC), but for some reason the state horse councils aren't perceived as having a strong voice on trail issues. There are several other groups that do have an organized national focus like the American Endurance Ride Conference (AERC) and Back Country Horsemen (BCH), but some people feel equestrians would be better served by the creation of an organization modeled after Trout Unlimited or the National Wild Turkey Federation. Personally, I'm reluctant to see another organization created when our volunteers are already spread rather thin. I'm following this discussion with trail advocates from other regions.

Second, the US Forest Service is continuing to try to restrict equestrians to "designated horse trails" especially in the mountains of Northern Georgia. At first this sounds reasonable, but then it turns out that there are a limited number of "designated horse trails" and the total amount of land that can be accessed by horse is extremely restricted.

BCH is leading this fight, and even though Maryland doesn't have any National Forests, I'll be monitoring this situation because we may expect State Forests to implement similar restrictive policies if this becomes a growing national trend.

**Don't Miss This One!**  
**Joint Meeting with Maryland Horse Industry Board**  
**Tuesday, November 13, 2008**  
**Miller Senate Building**  
**11 Bladen Street**  
**Annapolis, MD 21401-1991**  
**Meet & Greet Reception: 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.**  
**Association Meeting 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.**

All horsepeople are encouraged to invite their representatives and senators to the reception. This is a wonderful opportunity to reach out to your representative, to get to know him or her personally, and to introduce him or her to the rest of the equestrian industry.

For directions, please visit [mapquest.com](http://mapquest.com)

**Please see our November issue for August Meeting Highlights!**

*Maryland Horse Council membership is open to all associations, farms, businesses and individuals.*

*To join, please visit [mdhorsecouncil.org](http://mdhorsecouncil.org), contact [secretary@mdhorsecouncil.org](mailto:secretary@mdhorsecouncil.org) or call 410-489-7826 and request a membership form.*

*MHC is sponsored by Naden/Lean, The Equiery, and the Maryland Horse Breeders Association.*