



# MHC UPDATE

mdhorsecouncil.org

**Why should you be interested in, care about, join, become active in the Maryland Horse Council?**

## BECAUSE WE NEED YOU!

The Maryland Horse Council is your voice in the State Legislature, as well as in all the myriad of regulatory agencies in Annapolis that affect your life as a Maryland horse person. As the Legislature goes into session again, many issues will arise that we will need and want to weigh in on, in your behalf. So why do we need you?

First of all, we need to know who you are, so we can get information to you quickly about what is happening. Thousands of bills are introduced in Annapolis in each legislative session, we're here to sort through them, find the obvious and not so obvious impacts on horse people and horse operations, and get the word out to you. Then we need to know from you what your thoughts, opinions and experiences are, to help us get the word back to our legislators, to affect change as needed. The legislative session is very short (January to mid-April 2008) and things happen very quickly, so there is no time to rely on even the horse-oriented conventional media for these important communications.

Second, and equally as important, the political reality is that there is strength in numbers. As an all volunteer organization with an extremely limited budget, we have no powerful, paid lobbyists. Our voice in Annapolis will be taken much more seriously if we can demonstrate that we represent a large, active and involved membership that is paying attention to what its legislators are up to.

Here are just a few of the issues that are likely to come up this year -

- the perennial proposals to impose sales taxes on services (such as horse boarding, shoeing, veterinary services, etc.);

- the equally perennial attempt to abolish the contributory negligence standard for liability claims, making it easier for people to sue horse owners and horse operations and collect;
- a proposal to make sure that horse farms and horse operations are considered part of agriculture, thereby ensuring proper participation in, e.g., ag land preservation programs, drought and disaster relief programs, agriculture and veterinary research programs, best management incentive programs, etc.;
- other tax proposals such as: expanding the current income tax credit for donation of preservation or conservation easements, excluding the value of agricultural enterprises (here again, horses must = ag!) in calculating the Maryland estate tax, preserving the ag exemption (ditto!) from the sales and use tax, preserving ag-use property tax assessment for farmland (ditto again!)
- and, of course, slots, and the impact the final resolution of that issue will have on Maryland's breeding farms and related services such as vets, farriers, hay and grain suppliers, etc., and the ensuing "trickle down" effect on the rest of the industry.

Whatever your thoughts, opinions and positions might be on these issues, join us today and help our voice be heard and our impact be felt in Annapolis!

*- Jane Seigler  
Vice President*



## Maryland Horse Council

*Serving the Industry Serving You*

- Farm—\$75/year
- Business—\$100/year
- Individual—\$40/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 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.*

## **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 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, working 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. *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 antitrust 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. *phone 301-421-4481; jane@reddemeade.com*

## **Treasurer: Keith Wills**

Keith Wills has been involved with horses for the past 14 years. He 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 in the commercial division of 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. *phone 410-838-4242; fax 410-434-5584; kwills@mafc.com*

## **Secretary: Crystal Kimball**

Crystal Kimball is the owner and publisher of *The Equiry*. She rode on the University of Maryland equestrian team in college and has been involved with hunters, combined training, dressage, and foxchasing. She has served as secretary for the MHC since 1994. 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. Crystal also serves as secretary for the Maryland Steeplechase Association and technical advisor to the Maryland Horse Industry Board. *phone 410-489-7826; fax 410-489-7828; secretary@mdhorsecouncil.com*

## **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, He 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. *phone 410-758-2081; raherman@dmv.com*

## **Elected Member: Dorothy Troutman**

Dorothy Troutman is considered 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, Dorothy works tirelessly to protect open spaces and trails for equestrian use, and to provide facilities for showing and eventing. At the core of Dorothy'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. *phone/fax 301-627-1327*

## **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 Hiders 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. *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. *phone (410) 252-2100; cricket@marylandthoroughbred.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. *phone 410-841-5822; fax 410-841-5999*



# The Maryland Horse Council

*presents*

## 2008 MHC Equine Business Seminar

**Monday, February 25, 2008**

**8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



Maryland Department of Agriculture • 50 Harry S Truman Parkway • Annapolis, Maryland 21401

### **Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Employment Issues But Were Afraid To Ask!**

**Your Trainers, Your Instructors - To Payroll or Not To Payroll, That is The Question**

*Ah jeez, if you make them employees, then you have to do all that withholding for FICA, Social Security, blah blah blah - not to mention employer contributions! And then you've heard the rumors that if you are even one day late, or you calculate it wrong, you get slapped with fines and fees. Can you just consider them contractors? Pay them a lump sum and forget about all this hassle? Or better yet, just pay them in cash, under the table?*

**"Do you plan to have children?"**

*and other questions you CANNOT ask potential employees*

**You're FIRED!**

*How to keep yourself from getting burned!*

**You just cannot get good help these days - or can you?**

*The immigrant worker issue*

**Workman's Comp: Business Owner's Bane or Salvation?**

**When is a working student not a working student?**

**Who says I have to pay employer tax and withholding on my working students?**

**Is having my instructors certified really worth it?**

**Are these University Equine Studies**

**Programs going to turn out any useful employees?**

**Health Insurance? Retirement Plans? Are you kidding?**

**Who can offer that in this industry?!**

*Housing, Transportation, Bartering, Commissions,  
Off Site Coaching Fees, And Much More*

**REGISTRATION: \$45 (only \$35 for members of the Maryland Horse Council)**

**INCLUDES LUNCH! Deadline Friday, February 15, 2008**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BUSINESS/FARM:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY/STATE/ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Business & Farm Members can bring a second person at the discounted rate!)*

*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: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Cardholder as it appears on the card*

**FAX: 410-489-7828**

**For more information, please contact  
Jane Seigler at 301-421-9064  
or e-mail [jane@reddemeade.com](mailto:jane@reddemeade.com)**



# The Maryland Horse Council

*presents the*

## 2008 Equine Health Seminar

**Saturday, March 1, 2008 • 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**



Glenwood Community Center • 2400 Route 97 • Glenwood, MD 21723

*6 Continuing Education Credits, From the MD State Board of Veterinary Examiners (pending approval)*

***Speakers include:***

**Nathaniel A. White, II, DVM, MS**

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons  
Jean Ellen Shehan Professor and Director of the Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center  
Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine  
Virginia Tech  
Leesburg, Virginia

**Barbara Dallap Schaer, VMD**

Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Surgeons  
Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care  
Assistant Professor and Chief of Emergency Services  
New Bolton Center  
University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine  
Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

**REGISTRATION: \$45 (only \$35 for members of the Maryland Horse Council)**  
**INCLUDES LUNCH! Deadline Friday, February 22, 2008**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS/FARM: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL REGISTRANT: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Name of Cardholder as it appears on the card*

**FAX: 410-489-7828**

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



# HOST NEEDED!

## 2nd Annual MHC BBQ Saturday, September 20, 2008



Mt Airy's newly opened Paradise Stables was the location for the 1st Annual MHC BBQ.

## Hosting the MHC BBQ is a great way to showcase your facility!

Your facility could be the host for the 2008 MHC BBQ! This is a wonderful opportunity to show off a new barn, indoor, or network with other equine business owners, and introduce your home town legislators to the power of the equine industry.

### *To be eligible for consideration, the facility must:*

- ✓ be willing to have its name publicized extensively
- ✓ be available on September 20, 2008
- ✓ free of charge to MHC (we will include your facility in our insurance coverage for the day)
- ✓ have a covered area in the event of inclement weather
- ✓ have adequate parking (space for up to 150 cars, even in inclement weather)
- ✓ have bathrooms or porta johns
- ✓ have electric & water
- ✓ adequate ambient lighting for dusk/early evening
- ✓ appropriate place for a band to set-up (with access to electric)
- ✓ allow outside food
- ✓ permit set up and break down days on either side of the event
- ✓ have a dumpster or other accommodations for trash

*If you are interested, please send us your information!*

NAME OF FACILITY: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF OWNERS/MANAGERS: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF YOUR FACILITY: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return your form to: Maryland Horse Council • P.O. Box 651 • Lisbon, MD 21765  
FAX: 410-489-7828 • DEADLINE: Feb. 20**

The final decision will be at the discretion of the MHC Executive Committee; preference will be given to MHC members and to geographical diversity. Applications not selected for the current year will be held for future years.