

MHC UPDATE

mdhorsecouncil.org

A Message from the President



I have six months left as President of the Maryland Horse Council. My second two-year term ends July 1, and our by-laws wisely stipulate that officers may not serve for more than two consecutive terms.

The new officers were elected at our November meeting and are already planning their own creative ways to grow this great organization. I will be replaced by the woman who we all wanted as President four years ago, our current Vice President Jane Seigler. Jane is much

wiser, better organized, and more experienced than I. She would not have agreed to take on this role had others not promised to take over tasks that she currently handles. I for one will do whatever she asks of me, and I hope the rest of you will do the same.

I have a few things that I still want to get done, though. I still believe that this organization should find ways to serve our members better at the county level, and I think the Online County Forums will finally get us moving in that direction. I hope that at least one person from each county will step up and agree to moderate them, so we can get them started.

I also believe that our elected representatives should be hearing even more from us than they do today. We are pretty effective as a grassroots, mostly volunteer organization, but our new Political Action Committee opens the door to new strategies, and I hope we can grow it. I am looking forward to a Horse Council PAC Forum at our January meeting. If you know an official at the state or local level, bring them along!

And finally, I still can't believe that anybody who shares a passion for horses in Maryland has not gotten around to becoming a member of this organization. We should ALL be members, either as individuals, farms, businesses, or organizations. Being a member of one of our member associations is not enough. Our strength as an organization is that we are supported by dues. We answer to our members only, and not to any government body. That also means that if people don't pay their dues, we do nothing. Don't make me chase you down with a pitchfork!

– Stuart Pittman

Meet the New Officers, by Margaret Rizzo



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 two major DC law firms, and then as government affairs counsel with the Washington office of a multi-national corporation, Jane “retired” from active practice to serve for 27 years as the full-time chief

operating officer of Reddemeade Farm, Inc. Now living and training at her own Dressage at Sundown, she teaches, rides, trains and competes in dressage through the FEI 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 former member of Montgomery County's Agricultural Advisory Committee. She has also served on the steering committee of the Maryland Horse Forums, and has been the organizer of MHC's Business Seminars. Currently, Jane serves on MHC's Business Network and Legislative Committees, and on the boards of the Maryland Fund for Horses (Vice President) and the Horse Council PAC. She is also a member of Montgomery County's Zoning Advisory Panel.

Vice President Dr. Pete Radue: Dr. Peter Radue graduated from the University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine in 1978. After completing a one-year internship in large animal surgery at the University of Guelph in Ontario, he returned to Maryland and joined Dr. Roger Scullin to form Damascus Equine Associates. Dr. Radue is the current President of the Maryland Association of Equine Practitioners (MAEP). His horse

interests have included raising and showing Morgan horses, eventing and foxhunting. His professional interests are lameness diagnosis and treatment with a special interest in ultrasound imaging. He lives in Howard County with his wife Nanette and three children.

Maryland Horse Council Meeting

Friday, January 18, 2013

Vista Room @ Timonium Fairgrounds
2200 York Road | Timonium, MD 21093

6 pm: Reception | 7 pm: Meeting - All welcome!

Highlights:

- * Horse Council PAC Forum with Elected Officials after Guided Tour of Expo
- * Update on MD Horse Park Study and Mhib Grant Recipients
- * Review of Issues Before General Assembly
- * Unveiling of Online County Forums

For more information, or to join MHC, please visit
www.mdhorsecouncil.org



MHC Update

Meet the New Officers, by Margaret Rizzo (cont'd) ...



Treasurer Dale Clabaugh: Dale is a lifelong resident of Frederick County Maryland and a graduate of the University of Maryland. She has been an owner/agent with State Farm Insurance in Walkersville MD since 1979. She began riding as a child and charter member of the Frederick Pony Club (1962), and is the co-founder of the Woodvale Farms boarding facility and the Menfelt Horse Trials.



Secretary Valerie Ormond: Following a career in naval intelligence, Valerie retired as a Captain in 2009, and has since pursued interests in writing and with horses. Her first novel, *Believing In Horses*, about a young girl saving unwanted horses in Maryland, received the Gold Medal in the Military Writers Society of America 2012 Book Awards, among other honors and awards. Four other books published her non-fiction

stories in 2011 and 2012, and she works part-time for government and industry on writing projects. Valerie is a certified riding instructor with the Certified Horsemanship Assn., competes in the National Capital Adult Equestrian League, is a member of the Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Assn., and serves on the Board of Directors for Desire Ministries, a rescue and therapy nonprofit. A member of several writing organizations, including American Horse Publications, she also helped develop the Voice For The Horse's International Children's Writing Competition program. She served on the Prince George's County Equine Industry Task Force and chaired the Maryland Horse Council's Save The Horse Farms Committee. She also belongs to numerous veterans' organizations. Valerie and her husband Jaime Navarro own three horses boarded at Loftmar Stables and are co-owners of a Thoroughbred racehorse at Bowie Training Facility.

Online County Forums, by Stuart Pittman

The MHC Board of Directors approved a plan at its November meeting to create online forums for each Maryland county in which an MHC member volunteers to act as moderator. Please contact Margaret Rizzo (admin@mdhorsecouncil.org) if you are willing to serve as your county's online forum moderator. Your job will be to review posts and approve or decline them.

The Online County Forums will include:

- Excerpt from the MHC Guide to County Zoning and Horses
- County-specific 2010 Equine Census findings
- Contact information for elected officials representing the county
- Space for users to announce equestrian activities, discuss local topics

Horse Council PAC Forum with Elected Officials, by Stuart Pittman

All MHC members are encouraged to ask their elected officials at the state or county level to attend a Horse Council Political Action Committee Forum at our Quarterly Meeting on Friday, January 18th.

We will offer them a guided tour of the Horse World Expo at 5pm, a reception at 6pm, and a discussion of issues that concern our members during the first part of our meeting at 7pm. Our goal is to demonstrate to them the scope of our industry and to seek their support on our issues. Send in your PAC contributions in advance of this forum or bring them with you. A PAC is only as strong as its bank account! Visit www.mdhorsecouncil.org/pac.htm for donation info!

SAVE THE DATE: Business Network Lunch, by Margaret Rizzo
Mark your calendars for our next Business Network Lunch on Tuesday, January 22nd at Pleasant Prospect Farm in Brookeville, Maryland. This luncheon will feature a panel discussion on core aspects of business and financial planning, while wrapping into them personal considerations, family/partnership dynamics, achieving personal and career goals, etc. Come prepared with all your questions about tax strategies; asset protection, management and growth; protecting earning potential and growth; debt management; avoiding unintentional wealth transfers; creation of reserves/rainy day funds; real estate management. This is a great opportunity to take a moment out of your always over-filled days to step back and take a look at your whole approach to doing things, in terms of your business/professional life and those aspects of your personal life (from the financial and operations aspects) that affect your business/professional life. How can you get things ordered and functioning so that you have a better shot at preserving your livelihood and achieving your short- and long-term goals?

Lunch will be provided by long-time Maryland Horse Council sponsor The Equiry. Remember that RSVP is required and limited to current Business, Farm and Charity & Foundation members. To RSVP, visit www.mdhorsecouncil.org for a RSVP link. To check on your membership status, email admin@mdhorsecouncil.org.

Farm Stewardship Committee Year in Review, by Jane Thery

Well, the Maryland Horse Council Farm Stewardship Committee had a good year. We held wonderful meetings at the lovely farms of Carolyn Krome and Steve Darcey, made new contacts, clarified our mission and gave the MHC a more powerful voice in the political world of agriculture and the environment. Our mission of getting recognition for our well-managed horse farms is off to a strong start with the help of Gerald Talbert, Project Leader of the Maryland Farm Stewardship, Certification and Assessment Program (FSCAP) who explained the program to meeting participants and took the initiative to print a program brochure highlighting our horses. As of mid-December, we can celebrate the fact that FIVE horse farms with a total of 430 acres are now "Certified Agricultural Conservation Stewards."



MHC members get a tour of Steve Darcey's Edgewood Farm

MHC Update (con'd)**Farm Stewardship Committee Year in Review, cont'd, by Jane Thery**

In our mission to keep connecting horse farms with the technical and financial resources available to them, we have posted a resource list on the website, provided a forum for presentations from Maryland Soil Conservation Districts and our vice-chair, Amy Burk, has presented information on the many programs available through the University of Maryland system, especially in the area of pasture management. We will continue to seek out and disseminate information on these resources.

In cooperation with the Maryland Horse Council legislative gurus (mainly Vice President Jane Seigler), we have provided information on the laws and regulations governing land use, including sending out notices about opportunities to provide comments on draft laws and regulations. This effort led to modification of some rules to make them more practical and user-friendly to our horse community.

In our examination of farm stewardship issues, we have identified the need to clarify options for composting horse manure on your own farm and at commercial facilities. An issue for discussion at the first meeting of 2013 will be whether to compile a list of quality haulers and composters for use by new horse farm owners and those considering the composting options.

So, hats off to all of the people who helped move the farm stewardship programs forward and to our President Stuart Pittman for his support. Thank you.

For next year, we are off to a great beginning with the Winter Farm Stewardship Committee Meeting set to be held at Wyndham Oaks in Montgomery County from 3:00 to 5:30 pm on Monday, February 18 (Presidents' Day). I am delighted to report that Lori Larson, the owner of Wyndham Oaks, has agreed to not only host the meeting at her beautiful dressage barn club room but also speak about her experience with the Farm Stewardship Certification Program. In addition, we will have the pleasure of a tour and presentation of the barn's design by its architect, John Blackburn, who specializes in barns designed for healthy horses and the use of natural light and ventilation. Amy Burk will fill out the program with information on new University of Maryland programs for equines and on the renovated teaching farm on the university campus.

Thanks to everyone for your positive energies and efforts in improving and celebrating our horse farm stewardship.

Maryland Fund for Horses Happenings, by Vicki Carson

The Maryland Fund for Horses has been busy! President Vicki Carson summarizes their activities past, present and future ...

* **Tack and Blanket Bank:** This winter MFFH will be launching a Tack & Blanket Bank to assist licensed rescues in Maryland with obtaining needed items for their wish lists. Area retailers will be donating items for distribution to the rescues via a clearinghouse on the MFFH website.

* **Horse World Expo:** Visit Maryland Fund For Horses at booth 2113 at Horse World Expo! We'll be spotlighting MFFH's programs

along with three area horse rescues and helping them showcase their adoptable horses. We'll be collecting donations for gifts of tack and supplies for horses adopted during the Expo, and will be raffling some cool stuff to help fund the rescues and MFFH programs.

* **Maryland Responsible Horse Ownership Week 2013:** Plans are underway for Maryland Responsible Horse Ownership Week 2013! Mark your calendars for MRHOW 2013: May 13-19, 2013. If your organization is interested in participating in youth educational programs and activities about responsible horse ownership, contact info@mdfundforhorses.org.

* **Gelding Clinic:** The Maryland Fund For Horses organized a gelding clinic at beautiful Loch Moy Farm in Frederick County on November 17th. The clinic was sponsored by the VA-MD College of Veterinary Medicine, Damascus Equine Associates and Pfizer Animal Health. The participating horse owners, veterinarians and volunteers all rated it a big success. All of the horses that were gelded are doing fine – two rescue horses have found new homes as geldings and a worrisomely thin OTTB has gained a significant amount of weight since he became a gelding. It was a win-win for everyone. MFFH thanks all of the veterinarians, volunteers and Loch Moy Farm for donating their facilities and services to make it a great clinic.



Past MHC President Dr. Mike Erskine (Damascus Equine Associates) and MFFH Board member Doug Anderson (Performance Farrier Services) assist a newly gelded horse as he wakes up from surgery.



Two teams of volunteer veterinarians, vet students and assistants, hard at work at the Good to Geld Clinic

MHC Update (con'd)



Maryland Horse Council Membership

PO Box 141 • Damascus, MD 20872

Check membership type & duration

Membership Type	Annual	Lifetime
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> \$400
Farm	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750
Charity & Foundtn	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$750
Business	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000
Association	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000

Benefits:

Newsletter • Annual Equiery Subscription
E-mail Alerts • MHC Member Decal • Networking

Name: _____
 Name of Farm/Bus./Assn.: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State/Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ County: _____
 Email: _____

Checks and credit cards (MasterCard / Visa) accepted. Mail to: PO Box 141, Damascus, MD 20872

Payment can also be made online at: www.mdhorsecouncil.org/join.htm

Name of cardholder as it appears on card: _____
 Credit Card number: _____ Exp. Date: _____
 Signature: _____ Sec. Code: _____

MHC: Who We Are

Maryland Horse Council Association Members

The MHC represents 30,000 Maryland horse people from individuals, farms, businesses, and the following associations:

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| Carroll County Equestrian Council | Humane Society of Carroll County | Maryland State Quarter Horse Assn. |
| Chesapeake Plantation Walking Horse Club | Marlborough Hunt Club | Mid-Atlantic Saddlebred Assn. |
| Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners Assn. | Maryland 4-H Program | My Lady's Manor Driving Club, Inc. |
| Days End Farm Horse Rescue, Inc. | Maryland Assn. for Wildlife Conservation | New Market Middletown Valley Hounds |
| Equestrian Partners in Conservation (EPIC) | Maryland Combined Training Assn. | Plantation Walking Horses of Maryland |
| Equine Rescue & Rehabilitation, Inc. | Maryland Draft Horse & Mule Assn. | Potomac Hunt Club |
| Fair Hill International, Inc. | Maryland Equestrian Club | Preserve Harness Racing at Rosecroft |
| Frederick County Equine Alliance | Maryland Equestrian Foundation | The Humane Society |
| Freedom Hill Horse Rescue | Maryland Farriers Association | The Humane Society of the United States |
| Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue Society | Maryland Horse Breeders Assn. | TROT - Trail Riders of Today |
| Graham Equestrian Center, Inc. | Maryland Jockey Club | Tuckahoe Equestrian Center |
| Howard County Iron Bridge Hounds | Maryland Standardbred Breeders Assn. | Washington International Horse Show |
| | Maryland Steeplechase Assn. | Wicomico Hunt Club |

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is comprised of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and five Directors elected by the Board. The Executive Committee executes the business, policy and priorities established by the Board, and in the course thereof has authority to exercise all those powers and duties of the Board, not specifically reserved to the Board by the By-laws. A written report on Executive Committee meetings is available to all the Directors. The Executive Committee may appoint additional non-voting, advisory members from time to time in its discretion.

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| President
Steuart Pittman, Jr.
410-798-0503
Fx: 410-507-3351
dodonfarm@verizon.net | Vice President
Jane Seigler
301-774-3756
seigler.jane@gmail.com | Treasurer
Royce Herman
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raherman1@verizon.net | Secretary
Christine Bricker
410-788-3987
Fx: 410-765-1485
christine.bricker@ngc.com |
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Directors elected to serve on the Executive Committee:

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| Crystal Brumme Kimball
(MSA, HCIBH and
Director-at-Large for
Businesses; The Equiery)
410-489-7826
crystal@equiery.com | Dale Clabaugh
(Director-at-Large for
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Maryland Horse Council

Margaret Rizzo, Association Manager | P.O. Box 141; Damascus, MD 20872 | 301-502-8929 | admin@mdhorsecouncil.org

Visit www.mdhorsecouncil.org for details on how to join today!

Maryland Horse Council membership is open to all associations, farms, businesses and individuals. To join, please visit mdhorsecouncil.org, contact admin@mdhorsecouncil.org, or call 301-502-8929. The Maryland Horse Council is sponsored by B & D Builders, The Equiery, and Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit.