

MHC UPDATE

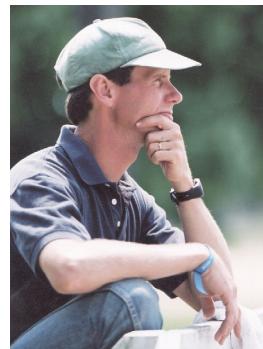
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A Message from the President

(Steuart Pittman, Jr.)

June 30th is my last day on the job. After that, Jane Seigler takes the reins as President of the Maryland Horse Council. There are so many things that I want to say as I leave this position. Here are a few of them ...

The volunteer hours that I have put into this organization have benefitted me more than they have benefitted the horse council. I learned to be comfortable speaking at a podium. I learned how to



influence public policy in our state. I became confident in my ability to turn ideas into action. I immersed myself in a community of people who share my passions. These are the things that give value to life. I will always be indebted to the Maryland Horse Council.

I am not going away. I was just informed that the Board of Directors has elected me to another term on the Executive Committee, and I have agreed to serve.

I am still not satisfied with the size or the power of this organization, but am convinced that we are positioned to grow. For me, the most exciting new development is our County Issues Committee and the Online County Forums that we are building. By organizing at the county level, we can grow like never before.

The new officers that you have elected are as good as it gets. Valerie Ormond as Secretary is a born leader who follows through on her commitments, is passionate about horses, is an award-winning author, and knows exactly what she's in for. Dale Clabaugh, our incoming Treasurer, is one of my all-time favorite people. She has organized large competitions, managed farms, runs a large insurance firm, and is probably a genius. She's also a saint. Dr. Pete Radue, our incoming Vice President, is one of those strong, quiet, smart people who knows the industry from his decades of work as an equine vet, but also knows the organization and is committed to its growth. Jane Seigler gets her own button.

Our incoming President, Jane Seigler, has been Vice President for most of the last eight years and would have been elected President four years ago if she had been willing. Her career, first as hot-shot lawyer and then as owner and founder of a huge riding center,

positions her as probably the most valuable asset the horse council has ever known. She is a major improvement on me, and I will be forever indebted to her. During the last year I became very involved in another nonprofit venture, the Retired Racehorse Training Project. Jane saw me dropping horse council balls left and right and just kept picking them up without complaining. I like to think she did that not only because of her commitment to the horse council, but also because of her support for the other work I was doing. We are all so lucky that Jane has agreed to serve as President of the organization that she has served for so long. I know that I am not alone in promising to have her back and to support her as she guides us into the next phase of our growth.

Margaret Rizzo and her staff at Mythic Landing Enterprises just gets better and better. I am so glad that the horse council renewed its contract recently with MLE for administrative services. They do the website, the e-blasts, the online blogs, the Facebook Page, the bookkeeping, the Equiry Newsletters, the membership servicing, the meeting planning, and the event planning. We would fall apart without them, but are growing with them. It is not just Margaret's professionalism and skills that support us, but also her passion for what we are and what we do.

In spite of its name, Maryland Horse Council is an organization of people. Without members and upcoming leaders we become silent. Pay your dues and get involved. And thanks for everything you have done for me.

- Steuart Pittman

Maryland Horse Council Meeting Friday, May 18, 2013

Prince George's Equestrian Center

14900 Pennsylvania Avenue, Upper Marlboro, MD

5 pm: Tutorial for Online County Forum Moderators

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

Meeting Highlights:

- * Farm Preservation 2013: a new tax credit, Tiers 1-4, and property value versus open space
- * Ag Certainty: horse farms could lead the way in a new state law that protects them from new environmental regulations for ten years
- * Making and reading the horse news in your county with the MHC Online County Forums
- * Maryland Horse Council's Day at the Races
- * MD Horse Industry Board report and big plans ... and much more

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

New Executive Committee At-Large Members (Margaret Rizzo)

The Executive Committee consists of five directors selected from the board to serve two-year staggered terms. The Executive Committee meets monthly and has the authority to execute the business, policy and priorities established by the Board of Directors and, as such, conducts the routine business of the Maryland Horse Council.

This year we were scheduled to elect three directors; but with Pete Radue, DVM needing to resign from his seat in order to serve as Vice President, we also needed to elect a fourth director to replace Dr. Radue. The following three individuals will start their 2-year term this July: Steuart Pittman, Jr., Crystal Kimball and Stephen Fulton. Additionally, Royce Herman will fulfill the remaining year of Dr. Radue's term.

(cont'd) ...

MHC Update

New Executive Committee At-Large Member, (cont'd) ...



Stuart Pittman, Jr. and his siblings are the 8th generation of his family to own their 550-acre Dodon Farm in Davidsonville, where he has made his living as a breeder, trainer and competitor in 3-day eventing for over 15 years. Stuart was Maryland's first eventing instructor to be certified by the USEA and he conducts clinics throughout the country. He has competed through the Advanced level on his Maryland-bred Thoroughbred stallion, Salute The Truth, who now stands at Dodon Farm. He graduated from the University of Chicago, then spent eight years as a political and community organizer before returning to the farm and horses. He became actively involved with the MHC during the campaign for the Maryland Horse Park. He created the Retired Racehorse Training Project, an educational organization that seeks to increase demand for Thoroughbred ex-racehorses. Stuart also served as MHC's President for four years.



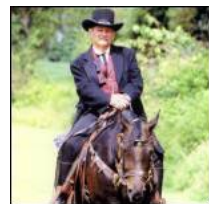
Crystal Kimball is the owner and publisher of The Equiry. She rode on the University of Maryland equestrian team in college and has been involved with hunters, combined training, dressage, and foxchasing. She has been a

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.



Stephen Fulton and his wife Karen have owned and operated Full Moon Farm in Finksburg since 1994. An 80-acre facility, Full Moon is a full-service barn offering boarding, lessons, a breeding program, horse shows

and schooling days, and two unrecognized starter horse trials. Stephen also operates a farrier service, serving clients in central Maryland and Northern Virginia. Stephen is a member of the MHC, MCTA, AFA, USEA, USEF, USHJA and AQHA. He is a former Level 3 ARIA instructor, has a BA in Equine Studies from Salem College, a Riding Master Certificate from Meridith Manor, and is a certified farrier graduate of the Oklahoma Farriers College.



Before joining the MHC Executive Committee, **Royce Herman** served on the MHC Board of Directors for seven years as the representative for Tuckahoe Equestrian Ctr. He graduated from Keystone College in 1966 and the University of Delaware School of Economics in 1971 and has spent over 40 years in food service marketing.

Royce is currently involved in trail riding, and has competed in Mounted Cowboy Shooting and mounted Wild West shows. For 13 years, Royce directed and acted in western shows for the Outlaw Days at Tuckahoe. He is a national competitor in muzzle loading bulls-eye pistol shooting and is a master gunsmith, owning and operating Centreville Gunsmith. Royce also teaches Hunter Safety for the State of Maryland and is a member of the Maryland Hunter Safety Instructor Hall of Fame.

Online County Forums (*Erica Lancaster*)

Erica Lancaster has accepted the Online County Forums Coordinator position. Erica will also be the moderator for Prince George's County. Margaret Rizzo will be holding a training class immediately before our next Quarterly meeting (May 21st). We still need volunteers to moderate forums for the following counties: Allegany, Baltimore, Baltimore City, Calvert, Cecil, Dorchester, Garrett, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Washington, Wicomico, and Worcester. Please volunteer and we'll train you!

MHC Day At The Races

Sunday, June 2nd
Tours start at 11:30am
Races start at 1:10pm

Pimlico Race Course
5201 Park Heights Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

Cost: \$40

This is a members only event, but members may purchase tickets for guests.

Ticket cost includes: Entrance ticket, Program, Brunch in the dining room, Tours of the Stakes Barn, Paddocks and Winners Circle with Christy Clagett.
Guest speakers to be announced.

Ticket information will be on www.mdhorsecouncil.org

Formal guidelines regarding what can/should be posted to the blogs are being created now. Examples of current information include: updates on Sunday Hunting, indoor arena building classification, and whether in house events (like a schooling show) can be labeled as "Agricultural Entities" in a particular county.

For the County Forums already established (Anne Arundel, Caroline, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's, and Talbot), Margaret has added the contact information for elected officials in each county, the 2010 Equine Census information, and the County-specific portion of the MHC Guide to County Zoning and Horses.

Horse Council PAC (*Win Hayward*)

The Horse Council Political Action Committee (PAC) has been active on a number of fronts this winter season. After hosting an energetic and extensive education session with State Legislators and staff at the Maryland Horse World Expo in January, we are grateful to have received numerous contributions that allow us to build resources and plan our next initiatives. Much of that work will be organized and carried in conjunction with the MHC Legislative Committee around such topics as the contributory negligence liability standard, animal cruelty, nutrient management, and racing, all of which are being discussed during the current State legislative session. Please express your views on key issues to leadership in either organization. Finally, as yet another indication of the PAC's growing maturity, the initial terms of PAC officers and Board of Directors are beginning to end and we are getting ready to take on new members. Royce Herman recently joined the Board as a member, and Rob Burk's term as Chair expires at the end of June. The new Chair will be appointed by the Executive Committee of the MHC; MHC members are encouraged to offer nominations and support.

MHC Update

Farm Stewardship (*Jane Thery*)

The Third Farm Stewardship meeting took place on February 18, 2013 in the comfortable and heated lounge of Lori Larson's lovely Wyndham Oaks Farm. Overlooking the impressive indoor arena, 25 members of the Maryland horse community gathered to discuss land stewardship issues with the overall goal of contributing to healthy horses and a healthy environment in Maryland.

Jane Thery, the committee chair, opened the meeting with an overview of the committee priorities of: promoting the view of the equestrian community in state-wide policy discussions regarding the environment; getting public recognition for the positive contribution to land management on the 587,000 acres in Maryland horse farms; linking technical and financial assistance resources to horse farm needs; staying ahead of the curve on land management technologies and regulations; and promoting the participation of horse farms in the Maryland Farm Stewardship Certification and Assessment Program (FSCAP).

Gerald Talbert, the program director of FSCAP, shared the good news that Sagamore Farm, owned by Kevin Plank and managed by Tom Mullikin, and the Potomac Horse Center, owned by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and managed by Rick Terselic, were certified. This brings the number of certified horse farms up to seven with acreage of 898.3. Again, congratulations to Persimmon Tree Farm and Carolyn Krome, Edgewood Farm and Steve Darcey, Bloomsbury Forge and Karla Stoner, Graden/ Rover's Content and Milly Welsh, Wyndham Oaks and Lori Larson, Potomac Horse Center and the Maryland-National Capitol Park and Planning Commission, and Sagamore Farm and Kevin Plank. Gerald answered questions from several farm owners looking into getting certified.

Lori Larson, the owner of Wyndham Oaks Farm, talked about designing the farm from the beginning to meet high environmental standards. Her experience with the FSCAP certification was that the process was simple as long as you had good farm management practices and kept your records up-to-date. Lori noted that she had also installed solar panels on the indoor arena roof and built the barns with natural light and ventilation. She is interested in exploring new technologies for on-farm energy generation using the horse manure from the 65 horses on the property. Wyndham Oaks has its Farm Stewardship green sign prominently displayed at the farm entrance.

Gary Felton, bio-environmental engineering and water quality specialist from the University of Maryland, is an expert on composting. He reviewed the simple steps to composting horse manure and highlighted its value as an organic soil enhancement. He also raised the issue of action needed to stop the use of persistent herbicides on equine hays and grains, as the herbicides do not break down in the composting process and can kill plants when the compost is applied. The Maryland Horse Council will look into ways to help stop the use of these persistent herbicides. Gary offered to provide additional information to anyone interested in composting horse manure.

Brenda Platt directs the Composting Makes \$en\$e Project at the Institute for Local Self Reliance and was representing the National

Composting Association. She raised the need to come up with modern composting regulations that will promote composting in a clear and transparent manner. She noted that the state of Maryland is presently reviewing composting regulations and encouraged the horse community to get involved. Brenda distributed a list of certified composting facilities that accept horse manure. The list was provided by Craig Coker of Coker Composting and Consulting. They are: Veteran's Compost in Aberdeen, Maryland; Howard County Bureau of Environmental Services in Marriottsville, Maryland (for Howard County horse farms only); Peninsula Compost in Wilmington, Delaware; Royal Oak Farm in Evington, Virginia; Black Bear Composting in Crozet, Virginia; McGill Environmental Systems in Waverly, Virginia; Two Particular Acres in Royersford, Pennsylvania; Terra-Grow, Inc. in Terre Hill, Pennsylvania; and Barnside Mulch and Compost in Schwenksville, Pennsylvania. She said that discussions are ongoing about building more composting facilities to manage the growing demand for composting in the region.

A special thanks to Andy Bennett of The Piedmont Group. Andy provided information on the insurance his company provides as well as some swag bag goodies to the group. He also sponsored our meeting refreshments. Thank you Andy!

Maryland Fund For Horses Spring Update (*Vicki Carson*)

Spring is here, and it's time for two important Maryland Fund For Horses (MFFH) programs: Responsible Horse Ownership Week, May 13-19 and Good-to-Geld/ Equine Healthcare Vouchers.

During Maryland's second annual Responsible Horse Ownership Week, MFFH will be offering a series of youth educational programs to organizations interested in educating young people about unwanted horses and responsible horse ownership. The program includes an interactive lesson plan with activities and resources appropriate for kids 8 and older. Summer camps, scout troops, lesson barns, pony clubs, 4-H groups and other organizations interested in the program should contact info@mdfundforhorses.org. Financial assistance with printing and volunteer instructors may be available for approved 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

This spring, MFFH is inaugurating its Equine Healthcare Voucher program. The program will be available to individuals in financial need, to assist with major (one-time) equine healthcare expenses. Examples include but are not restricted to gelding and euthanasia. Vouchers will be available as long as funds are available. Please help support this important program with your donations. To donate or for qualification requirements and an application, visit www.mdfundforhorses.org or the MFFH Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MarylandFundForHorses

Special Note: Maryland Fund For Horses, Inc. received its 501(c)(3) non-profit status in February 2013, retroactive to December 2011. Our much-appreciated donors and supporters should check with their tax professionals to confirm that donations to MFFH are fully tax-deductible to the extent allowed by the IRS. Many thanks to our donors and supporters!

MHC Update (con'd)



Maryland Horse Council Membership

PO Box 141 • Damascus, MD 20872

Name: _____

Name of Farm/Bus./Assn.: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ County: _____

Email: _____

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 Equiry Subscription
E-mail Alerts • MHC Member Decal • Networking

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:

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

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 410-758-2081 Fx: 410-758-4760 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:

Crystal Brumme Kimball (MSA, HCIBH and Director-at-Large for Businesses; The Equiry) 410-489-7826 crystal@equiry.com	Dale Clabaugh (Director-at-Large for Individuals) 301-898-9560 dale.clabaugh@gmail.com	Christy Clagett (Marlborough Hunt Club) 410-703-7998 larkinghill@aol.com	Pete Radue (MAEP and Director at Large for Businesses; Damascus Equine Associates) 301-829-2170 raduedvm@aol.com	Judy Smith (Director-at-Large for Farms; Good Friday Farm) 301-662-2532 goodfridayfarm@msn.com
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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 Equiry, and Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit.