

## NEWS from MHC'S INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

# ABOUT MHC'S INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

#### FARMS + BUSINESSES = INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

At the summer quarterly meeting of the MHC Board of Directors, in recognition of the professionalism of our Business, Farm, and Charity/ Foundation members, the Board voted to merge these three categories into one: the new MHC Industry Professional Membership. Why? Because business is business, regardless of whether it is a for-profit or a not-for-profit, farm, retail store, rescue organization or veterinary practice - it's all still a professional endeavor with similar and overlapping concerns. Since the benefits for each of the previous categories were the same, it just made sense to create one new umbrella category: MHC Industry Professional Membership!

#### **NEW EQUIERY COLUMN JUST FOR YOU!**

In honor of this new membership category, we are pleased to launch this new monthly column in *The Equiery*, (owned and published by the Maryland Horse Council). This new column will meet the demand of so many of our members: a place where you can publicize your professional news and updates. Have you taken on a new partner? Hired a new manager or trainer? Brought a new vet into your practice? Promoted an employee? Moved your location? Received a commendation or award? Changed brokerages or practices? Hired a new director of development? If so, we want to know! Please send your news to IndustryNews@mdhorsecouncil.org.

#### **SPONSOR PROFILES**

In this column, you will also get to know our sponsors better, as we profile the businesses – and the people behind the businesses. Next Month: **B&D Builders**, celebrating their 20th anniversary!

#### **NEW MEMBER: RAISING CONNECTIONS**

Welcome to **Raising Connections**, a Westminster-based weekly radio broadcast that explores the connections between animals, agriculture, commerce and ourselves. Available on WTTR and via the internet, Raising Connections is soon to be syndicated. Show host Rachann Mayer owns a horse farm and boarding kennel operation in Mount Airy and is a new member of The Great FARMERS FEED THE HUNGRY Christmas Parade. Welcome, Rachann!



#### **NEWS FROM INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS**

On top of the usual COVID challenges, member **Hilltop Farm** lost 2 of their great foundation stallions this year, each of which arrived in the 1990s and each of which made an indelible impact on their breeds: Contucci this summer at age 27 and Riverman in October at age 30. Meanwhile, Hilltop's roster was enhanced when homebred Hanoverian Louisville HTF (Lord Leatherdale – Negro – Fruhling), already licensed by ISR/Oldenburg, was accepted in the Hanoverian & Rhineland registries.

Member Jeanne Emge, who owns **Emge Equine** and **The World of Pets Expo**, is still planning to hold the Expo at the Maryland State Fairgrounds, operating under whatever the required COVID protocols will be at that time. But - just in case, - although she is accepting reservations, she is not accepting deposits until closer to the show. It is yet to be determined whether or not Horseland will be renewed at the Expo.

MHC bids farewell to former farm members Shelly & Dave Buhlman, who closed down their Howard County-based horse and hay operation **Marriottsville Ridge Farm** this year, a pre-COVID decision. "We enjoyed decades of showing with the Howard County Horse Show Association, and will be forever grateful for the association. It was quite a run, and I wouldn't trade it for anything, but I am glad to have moved on when we did," said Shelly. "We are so proud of Ellen Dempsey, who joined us in 2001 and is now launching her own business as an independent instructor." The farm name will live on in Shelly's kennel name and "new career," MRF Doodles, breeding petite mini-golden doodles in Maine.

#### <u>KUDOS</u>



Congratulations to member Valerie Ormond, owner of Veterans Writing Services, LLC, who was named a finalist for the 2020 Military Writers Society of America Writer of the Year.

Writer of the Year. Valerie served as MHC secretary for many years.

Congratulations to member Laura-Lee Jones, who has launched her own Long & Foster "Laura Jones Team" and moved into swanky new digs in Glenelg.



#### WHAT IS AN INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL?

Industry Professional Memberships are open to owners and managers of equine or equine-related businesses; farms; shows/events; rescues, sanctuaries and other charitable entities; and to independent contractors and service providers.

Equine businesses include (but are not limited to) farms and stables offering any equine-related service (such as boarding, training, lessons, trail rides, pony parties, breeding, mare care, foaling, carriage horses, and equine entertainment).

Equine-related businesses include (but are not limited to) tack, feed and other retail stores; trailer manufacturers, sales and service; shipping companies; feed mills; manufacturers of saddles, supplements, tack, and shoes; hay, straw, shavings, feed, and other products; insurance, financial, legal, accounting, and marketing services; auction houses and sales sites; competition venues and race tracks; veterinary practices and veterinary hospitals.

Independent contractors include (but are not limited to) veterinarians, farriers, equine therapists, saddle fitters, trainers, instructors, stall muckers, braiders, and equine dentists.

#### Industry Professional Membership Benefits include:

- direct input into policy and advocacy by the Maryland Horse Council on State of Maryland legislative and regulatory affairs, to protect and grow the diverse Maryland horse industry
- exclusive invitations to Business Networking events and seminars (not open to any other membership category)
- business logo and link on MHC member directory page
- discounts on select nationally known products and services, such as John Deere, Sherwin Williams, Suncast, Nationwide, Redbrand, US Equestrian, UPS, New Holland, Toro, eXmark, tenda, Farm Paint – and more
- exclusive discounts for advertising and marketing via *The Equiery's* multi-media products. Contact Tracy McKenna today to find out more! tracy@equiery.com or 410-802-4219

Annual Membership: \$100 Lifetime Membership: \$1,000 Is your business missing from this list? Join today! Visit join.mdhorsecouncil.org or contact MHC Membership Coordinator Emily Nessel at membership@mdhorsecouncil.org or 443-717-0120

This feature is a benefit for MHC Industry Professional Members. To learn more or submit news & updates, contact Business Network Co-Chairs Jane Seigler & Crystal Brumme Pickett at IndustryNews@mdhorsecouncil.org BECOME A MEMBER • JOIN.MDHORSECOUNCIL.ORG



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